



GAZA WAR RAGES DESPITE TRUCE BY ISRAELIS, HAMAS

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Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email: news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel: +297 582-7800 Monday, July 28, 2014



Tentative Deal Reached on VA Reform

Sen. Bernie Sanders speaks during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, about the Veterans Administration. According to sources, the chairmen of the House and Senate Veterans Affairs committees have reached a tentative agreement on a plan to improve veterans' health care.

(AP Photo)
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Aruba to Release Venezuelan Diplomat Sought By US

JOSHUA GOODMAN
DAVID McFADDEN
Associated

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — The governments of Venezuela and Aruba said Sunday that a former Venezuelan general wanted by the United States on drug charges would be released by authorities on the Dutch Caribbean island and brought home shortly.

Venezuelan Foreign Minister Elias Jaua read parts of what he said was a letter from the Netherlands' ambassador in Caracas agreeing with the Venezuelan government's position that Hugo Carvajal's detention violated international law because he was sent to Aruba as Venezuela's consul and was carrying a diplomatic passport.

Jaua said President Nicolas Maduro had sent a high-level mission to Aruba on a private plane to bring Carvajal home no later than Monday. Authorities in Aruba had argued that Carvajal didn't have immunity from arrest because he had yet to be accredited by the Netherlands, which manages the foreign affairs of its former colony that sits

off the coast of Venezuela. But at a hastily called news conference in Aruba's capital, the island's justice minister said Carvajal would be freed from detention under a decision Sunday by the Dutch government. Dowers said Dutch Foreign Minister Frans Timmermans had decided Carvajal did have immunity but also declared him "persona non

grata" — a term used by governments to remove foreign diplomats. "The fact is that Mr. Carvajal was granted diplomatic immunity, but he is also considered persona non grata. He has to abandon our territory as soon as possible," Dowers told reporters at a news conference in Oranjestad that was streamed live on the Internet. □

Gaza war rages despite Hamas, Israel truce pledges

**IBRAHIM BARZAK
TIA GOLDENBERG**
Associated Press

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Israel and Hamas launched new attacks Sunday in the raging Gaza war, despite going back and forth over proposals for a temporary halt to nearly three weeks of fighting ahead of a major Muslim holiday. The failure to reach even a brief humanitarian lull in the fighting illustrated the difficulties in securing a

Hamas showed it could not be trusted after it violated other cease-fire efforts. "Israel is not obliged and is not going to let a terrorist organization decide when it's convenient to fire at our cities, at our people, and when it's not," Netanyahu told "Fox News Sunday." International diplomats had hoped a temporary lull could be expanded into a more sustainable truce to end the bloodshed and U.N. chief Ban Ki-moon urged the sides on Sunday

health officials. Israel has lost 43 soldiers, while two Israeli civilians and a Thai worker in Israel were killed by rocket and mortar attacks from Gaza. Following Hamas' call for a break in fighting, an Israeli airstrike killed one person in Gaza when it hit a vehicle carrying municipal workers on their way to fix water pipes, the Palestinian Red Crescent said. Police said Israeli tanks fired shells on densely populated areas south of Gaza

each other. But business was slow in the outdoor market of the Jebaliya refugee camp, where vendors set up stands with clothes and shoes. Hamed Abul Atta, 22, a shoe salesman, said he hadn't made a single sale in the first three hours after opening. Abul Atta said he and his family were staying with relatives after fleeing the Shijaiyah district of Gaza City, which has seen heavy fighting. He said a cousin



Smoke from an Israeli strike rises over Gaza City, in the northern Gaza Strip, Sunday, July 27, 2014.

(AP Photo/Adel Hana)

more permanent truce as the sides remain far apart on their terms. After initially rejecting an Israeli offer Saturday for a 24-hour truce, Hamas said Sunday that it had agreed to hold fire ahead of the Eid al-Fitr holiday marking the end of the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan. But as Israel's Cabinet met to discuss the offer and the ongoing war, rockets rained down on southern Israel and Israeli strikes could be heard in Gaza. Each side blamed the other for scuttling the efforts. Hamas said that "due to the lack of commitment" by Israel, it resumed its fire. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that

to accept a 24-hour break in fighting. However, both sides were holding out for bigger gains in the Gaza war. Hamas wants to break the seven-year blockade of Gaza and believes the only way to force serious negotiations on ending the closure is to keep fighting. Israel, which launched the war on July 8 to halt relentless Hamas rocket fire on its cities, wants more time to destroy Hamas' rocket arsenal and the military tunnels the Islamic militants use to infiltrate into Israel and smuggle weapons. The 20-day war has killed more than 1,030 Palestinians, mainly civilians, according to Palestinian

City. One shell hit an apartment building and several shells struck a building. Navy boats also resumed firing on Gaza's coast, police said. The Israeli military said it hit some 40 sites throughout Sunday. In southern Israel, one person was injured and a house was damaged by a rocket launched from Gaza, Israeli police said. The Israeli military said more than 50 rockets were fired Sunday. Ahead of the three-day Eid al-Fitr holiday, which begins Monday, families in Gaza ordinarily would be busy with preparations, with children getting new clothes, shoes and haircuts, and families visiting

and three other relatives were among dozens of people killed there last week. "We can't feel any joy right now," he said when asked if he would mark the holiday. Meanwhile, the Israeli military acknowledged firing a mortar shell that hit the courtyard of a U.N. school in Gaza last week, but said the yard was empty at the time and that the shell could not have killed anyone. Palestinian officials have said three Israeli tank shells hit the school in the town of Beit Hanoun on Thursday, killing 16 people and wounding scores. The school served as a shelter for Palestinians displaced by the Gaza fighting. □

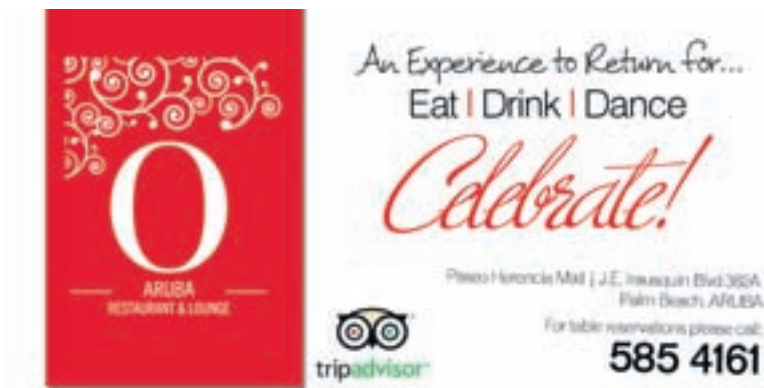
CARIBBEAN ROUND-UP

Suspect seized in slayings of 2 Jamaican kids

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) — A suspect has been detained in the slayings of two children whose bodies were found in a remote wooded area of western Jamaica earlier this month, police said Sunday. Investigators with the Jamaica Constabulary Force said the male suspect is believed to have abducted and murdered the youngsters about two weeks ago in the Martha Brae area of northern Trelawny parish. The 10-year-old girl and 12-year-old boy were reported missing after they left a beach outing with a strange man. They went to the beach on July 13 with six other children and one adult. Their bodies were found two days later in a pond by local men who were trapping crabs.

Cuba celebrates Revolution Day, pushes for unity

HAVANA (AP) — Cuba marked the 61st anniversary of the beginning of Fidel and Raul Castro's revolution on Saturday with a leading official calling on islanders to be united and to defend the nation's communist system. President Raul Castro, wearing an olive-green military uniform as he sat in the front row with other top leaders, ceded speechmaking duties to Vice President Ramiro Valdes, a former commander in the rebellion. "We must preserve this unity above all things," Valdes said. "We have no alternative but to keep fighting every day, until the last breath, for the country, with the revolution and with socialism." The Castro brothers' failed attack on a military barracks in the eastern city of Santiago on July 26, 1953, is considered the onset of the revolution, which culminated in 1959 when strongman Fulgencio Batista fled the island. The date is a national holiday celebrated each year with musical performances and patriotic speeches. On Saturday, the main ceremony took place in the provincial capital of Artemisa, west of Havana. "There is no place in our hearts for discouragement, and the word defeat has been erased from our vocabulary," Valdes said. □



US says Russia has fired rockets into Ukraine



This document released by the U.S. State Department in Washington, July 27, 2014 shows a satellite image that purports to show ground scarring at two multiple rocket launch sites oriented in the direction of Ukraine military units. The United States says the images back up its claims that rockets have been fired from Russia into eastern Ukraine and heavy artillery for separatists has also crossed the border.

(AP Photo/U.S. State Department)

DEB RIECHMANN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) —

The U.S. stepped up pressure on Moscow Sunday by releasing satellite images it says show that rockets have been fired from Russia into neighboring eastern Ukraine and that heavy artillery for pro-Russian separatists has crossed the border.

The images, which came from the U.S. Director of National Intelligence and could not be independently verified by The Associated Press, show blast marks where rockets were launched and craters where they landed. Officials said the images show heavy weapons fired between July 21 and July 26 — after the July 17 downing of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 that killed all 298 onboard.

The four-page memo is part of the Obama administration's push to hold Russia accountable for its activities in neighboring Ukraine, and the release could help to persuade the United States' European allies to apply harsher sanctions on Russia.

The timing of the memo also could be aimed at dissuading Russia from further military posturing. The Pentagon said just days ago that the movement of Russian heavy-caliber artillery systems across its border into Ukraine was "imminent."

Moscow has angrily denied allegations of Russia's involvement in eastern Ukraine.

Russia's foreign ministry over the weekend accused the U.S. of conducting "an unrelenting campaign of

slander against Russia, ever more relying on open lies." Secretary of State John Kerry spoke by phone Sunday with Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, urging him to stop the flow of heavy weapons and rocket and artillery fire from Russia into Ukraine, said a State Department official. Kerry did not accept Lavrov's denial that heavy weapons from Russia were contributing to the conflict, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to provide details of the call.

There was no immediate comment from Moscow.

The U.S. images claim to show multiple rocket launchers fired at Ukrainian forces from within Ukraine and from Russian soil.

One image shows dozens of craters around a Ukrainian military unit and rockets that can travel more than seven miles (11 kilometers). The memo said one image

provides evidence that Russian forces have "fired across the border at Ukrainian military forces and that Russian-backed separatists have used heavy artillery provided by Russia in attacks on Ukrainian forces from inside Ukraine."

Another satellite image depicted in the memo shows "ground scarring at multiple rocket launch sites on the Russian side of the border oriented in the direction of Ukraine military units within Ukraine."

"The wide areas of impact near the Ukrainian military units indicates fire from multiple rocket launchers," the memo said.

Moreover, the memo included a satellite image that it called evidence of self-propelled artillery only found in Russian military units "on the Russian side of the border oriented in the direction of a Ukrainian military unit within Ukraine." □

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AP: Tentative deal reached on VA reform



House Veterans Affairs Committee Chairman Jeff Miller, R-Fla., leaves a Republican caucus meeting, on Capitol Hill in Washington. According to sources, the chairmen of the House and Senate Veterans Affairs committees have reached a tentative agreement on a plan to improve veterans' health care.

(AP Photo)

MATTHEW DALY
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The chairmen of the House and Senate Veterans Affairs committees have reached a tentative agreement on a plan to improve veterans' health care.

Republican Rep. Jeff Miller and independent Sen. Bernie Sanders scheduled a news conference for Monday to talk about a compromise plan to fix a veterans' health program scandalized by long patient wait times and falsified records covering up delays.

Miller chairs the House veterans panel, while Sanders chairs the Senate panel.

A spokesman for Sanders said Sunday the men have reached a tentative agreement. The deal requires a vote by a conference committee of House and Senate negotiators, and votes in the full House and Senate.

Miller and Sanders said in a joint statement that they "made significant progress" over the weekend toward agreement on legislation to reform the Veterans Affairs Department.

The plan is intended to "make VA more accountable and to help the department recruit more doctors, nurses and other health care professionals," Miller and Sanders said.

Few details of the agreement were released, but the bill is expected to au-

thorize billions in emergency spending to lease 27 new clinics, hire more doctors and nurses, and make it easier for veterans who can't get prompt appointments with VA doctors to get outside care.

Sanders proposed a bill last week that would cost about \$25 billion over three years. Miller countered with a plan to approve \$10 billion in emergency spending, with a promise of more spending in future years under the normal congressional budget process.

Miller's bill would keep most of the provisions in a Senate-passed bill and would authorize about \$100 million for the Veterans Affairs Department to address shortfalls in the current budget year.

Both bills cost significantly less than bills approved last month by the House and Senate.

Negotiations had appeared in jeopardy Thursday after Miller and Sanders announced their competing plans, then held separate news conferences lashing out at each other.

The men resumed talks in private Thursday night.

The House and Senate are set to adjourn at the end of the week until early September, and lawmakers from both parties have said completing a bill on veterans' health care is a top priority. □

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Judge strikes down DC ban on handguns outside home

JESSICA GRESKO

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) —

A federal judge struck down the U.S. capital's ban on carrying guns outside of a person's home, concluding it violates constitutional rights. The ruling from U.S. District Judge Frederick J. Scullin is the latest in a protracted fight over gun laws in Washington, D.C. In 2008, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a landmark decision striking down the city's 32-year-old ban on handguns. Since then, the city has rewritten its laws, lawsuits have been filed and even Congress has waded into the fight.

In a decision made public Saturday, Scullin concluded that the Second Amendment gives people the right to carry a gun outside the home for self-defense. He cited two U.S. Supreme Court cases as important to his ruling — the 2008 opinion striking down the District of Columbia's ban and a 2010 ruling involving Chicago's handgun ban. The Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution guarantees the right "to keep and bear Arms."

"There is no longer any basis on which this court can conclude that the District of Columbia's total ban on the public carrying of ready-to-use handguns outside the home is constitutional under any level of scrutiny," wrote Scullin, who was appointed by President George H.W. Bush and is a retired Army colonel.

A city official said Sunday that officials would ask for a stay and were weighing an appeal.

The city rewrote its rules after the 2008 Supreme Court decision. Residents were required to register their guns and keep them in their homes. Gun owners also have to take a safety class, be photographed and fingerprinted, and re-register their



This photo shows the U.S. Capitol building in Washington DC. A federal judge struck down the U.S. capital's ban on carrying guns outside of a person's home, concluding it violates constitutional rights. (AP Photo/ Evan Vucci)

weapons every three years. Those requirements were challenged in court but upheld by a federal judge in May.

Earlier this month, Republican Rep. Thomas Massie of Kentucky successfully added an amendment to a bill that would block the District from spending any money to enforce local gun laws. Massie has conceded his amendment is unlikely to get through the Senate and become law.

The lawsuit before Scullin was filed in 2009 by the Washington state-based Second Amendment Foundation and three District of Columbia residents and a New Hampshire resident who said they wanted to carry guns for protection.

Alan Gura, the lawyer who represents the group challenging the ban and who won the 2008 and 2010 Supreme Court cases, said Sunday he was very pleased.

Ted Gest, a spokesman for the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia, which defended the city's ban, said the city "was studying the opinion and won't comment on its substance." □

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California governor kicks off Mexico trade mission

JUDY LIN
Associated Press
SACRAMENTO, California
(AP) — Gov. Jerry Brown travels to Mexico for three days of meetings starting Monday aimed at increasing direct investments in California, promoting university exchanges and forming environmental partnerships to combat climate change.

The trip, organized by the California Chamber of Commerce, includes a delegation of more than 100 state government, business, economic development, investment and policy leaders. Delegates paid \$5,000 each for the four-day trip, which is subsidizing the cost of Brown's travel.

"The relationship with Mexico, the role of those of Mexican heritage in California, is fundamental to our schools, to our well-being, and I think this trip will be productive," Brown said ahead of the journey.

"We want to increase trade. We want to deal with some issues on the refugees that are coming across the border. And I also want to collaborate with Mexico in pushing an intelligent climate change agenda," the governor said.

Brown is scheduled to begin his visit by meeting with Eruviel Avila, the governor of the state of Mexico. He will then sign a memorandum of understanding with Mexico's Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, promote California tourism and meet the American ambassador to Mexico. On Tuesday, Brown will sign an education agreement, then meet with officials including Mexico's energy secretary and the president of the senate.

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Gov. Jerry Brown, left, and Mexican Secretary of Foreign Affairs Jose Antonio Meade Kuribrena talk during a luncheon held by the California Chamber of Commerce Wednesday, July 23, 2014, in Sacramento, Calif. Brown and Meade discussed Brown's upcoming visit to Mexico. (AP Photo/Rich Pedroncelli)

On Wednesday, the governor plans to wrap up his trip by signing a trade agreement with Mexico, which is California's largest export market.

About 10 members of Brown's administration will accompany the governor, along with five state senators and 10 Assembly members. The governor's college roommate, retired Judge Frank Damrell Jr., and Brown's sister, former state Treasurer Kathleen Brown will also attend. Business participants include Sempra Energy, BP America and other representatives of the energy, tourism and agriculture industries. Representatives of the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Environmental Defense Fund will also attend.

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Hospital shooting suspect charged with murder

MARYCLAIRE DALE
Associated Press
PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A man accused of fatally shooting his caseworker and grazing his psychiatrist at a suburban Philadelphia hospital complex before the doctor returned fire has been charged with murder.

Richard Plotts was arraigned late Saturday at his hospital bedside after emerging from sedation, said Emily Harris, spokeswoman for the Delaware

County district attorney's office.

Plotts, 49, was ranting about Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital's gun ban Thursday before he shot 53-year-old caseworker Theresa Hunt during an appointment, authorities said.

Psychiatrist Lee Silverman crouched behind a chair and pulled out his own gun, firing several shots at Plotts, authorities said. Plotts had 39 unspent bullets on him when he was wrestled to the ground, police said.

Two guns, including a revolver that police said he used to kill Hunt, were found at the scene.

"If the doctor did not have a firearm, (and) the doctor did not utilize the firearm, he'd be dead today, and I believe that other people in that facility would also be dead," District Attorney Jack Whelan said Saturday.

Hunt's brother, Dennis, told WPVI-TV that she was strong and good-hearted.

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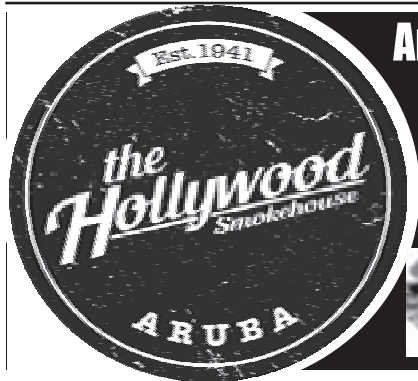
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Northern California fires rage; 10 homes torched

PLYMOUTH, California (AP)

— Firefighters in Northern California on Sunday battled a wildfire that has destroyed 10 homes and forced hundreds of evacuations in the Sierra Nevada foothills, while a fire near Yosemite National Park destroyed one home and grew significantly overnight.

East of Sacramento, the Sand Fire has burned about 3,800 acres (1,540 hectares), roughly 6 square miles (15.5 square kilometers), of steep, rugged terrain near wine-growing regions in Amador and El Dorado counties since Friday, according to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

The fire, which has also destroyed seven outbuildings, was 35 percent contained Sunday morning, but threatens hundreds of homes, CalFire spokeswoman Lynne Tolmachoff said. It could grow again Sunday as firefighters brace for high winds and temperatures above 100 degrees Fahrenheit (38 degrees Celsius) in the drought-stricken region.

"All of the vegetation in the area is struggling. It's burning very easily," Tolmachoff said. "It causes the fire to be a lot hotter and to spread more easily." West of Yosemite National Park, a wildfire that began Saturday afternoon quadrupled in size overnight to 2,100 acres (850 hectares), or more than 3 square miles (7.8 square kilometers), and was burning out of control Sunday. It destroyed one home in the small community of Foresta, adjacent to the park, Ranger Scott Gediman said. The park itself remained open.

The Sand Fire in the Sierra foothills has prompted authorities to evacuate about 500 homes and close several roads near the town of Plymouth. Nearly 1,500 firefighters, aided by aircraft including a DC-10 air tanker, are working to control the blaze.

CalFire officials say a vehicle that drove over dry vegetation started the fire, which has sent up huge plumes of smoke and worsened air quality in the Sacramento area.

Meanwhile, about 400 firefighters aided by fixed-wing helicopters were battling the flames near Yosemite, Gediman said. The cause wasn't immediately known.

About 100 homes in Foresta and the small community of Old El Portal were evacuated. Two shelters were opened for people and animals.

"There have been no injuries so far, which is wonderful," Gediman said.

The park itself, home to such sites as Half Dome mountain, Yosemite Meadows, a grove of Giant Sequoia trees and other wonders, remained open Sunday. None of its treasures were threatened, Gediman said, although some areas were smoky.

The Crane Flat campground and Highway 120, a major highway leading to the park from the San Francisco Bay Area, were closed, but other roads were open. So were hotels and other amenities.

Wildfires also burned in other Western states, including Colorado and Utah. The nation's largest wildfire, the 618-square-mile (1,600-square kilometer) Buzzard Complex in



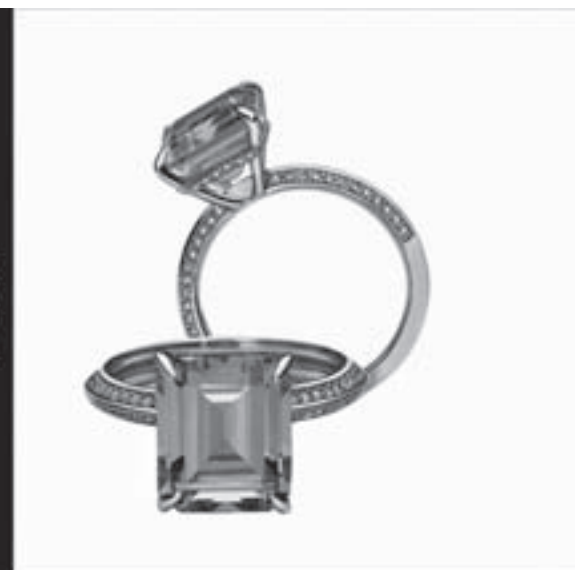
A DC-10 Air Tanker makes a drop on the Sand Fire at the middle fork of the Cosumnes River in Northern California as firefighters standby to protect a home on Saturday, July 26, 2014. Hundreds of firefighters are working in rugged terrain and triple-digit temperatures.

(AP Photo/Hector Amezcua)

eastern Oregon, was 95 percent contained Saturday. Crews in north-central

Washington made progress on the 390-square-mile (1,010-square kilometer)

Carlton Complex wildfire that has burned an estimated 300 homes. □



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Queens, New York:

Homeless shelter's opening in stirs ugly exchanges

KATE TAYLOR

JEFFREY E. SINGER

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NEW YORK - The crowd of 500 included grandmothers and small children, Chinese immigrants and the president of a local Republican club, all shouting that the mayor had trampled their rights. The source of their anger? The 180 homeless families the city had moved into the defunct Pan American Hotel in Elmhurst, Queens. The residents felt nervous around the new arrivals, they said. There were reports of shoplifting from the Good Fortune Supermarket, public urination and panhandling - all things, they said, that had been unheard-of in their

neighborhood until now. During the protest Tuesday night, one of the organizers spoke through a bullhorn in Mandarin, as a few people looked out of the windows of the hotel. "Speak in English!" a woman leaning out a window shouted, holding up her phone, perhaps to take a video of the protest. "Homeless with money," a protester sneered, referring to the woman's phone. While local residents often object when the city opens a homeless shelter in their midst, the vitriol in Elmhurst, since the city began moving families into the hotel in early June, has shocked city officials. Because many of those op-

posed to the shelter are Chinese immigrants, the conflict has also produced discomfiting images of immigrant families and the mostly black and Latino homeless families shouting

should not "put this garbage in our community." Mayor Bill de Blasio has made it a top priority to tackle the city's housing crisis by building or preserving some 200,000 units

by investors who are involved in running other homeless shelters. The Department of Homeless Services initially said the hotel was not appropriate for families because the



Protesters, many of them local residents, outside the homeless shelter in the defunct Pan American Hotel in the Elmhurst neighborhood of New York. The city began moving homeless families into the hotel in early June, prompting a series of protests, including the one on Tuesday that drew about 500 people. (Yana Paskova/The New York Times)

insults at one another. A local civic group has organized a series of protests, including one in late June in which some of the protesters yelled at the shelter residents to "Get a job!" and the homeless families responded that their opponents should "go back to China." Both the protest organizers and city officials now seem to want to avoid a repeat of that scene. On Tuesday the city sent buses to take the shelter residents and their children to a movie. And the organizers tried to keep the speakers' criticism focused on the city's policy, rather than on the homeless themselves. There were occasional lapses, as when a man translating a speech into Mandarin inserted a sentence saying that the city

of affordable housing. He has promised to stem the city's record numbers of homeless people in shelters by starting rent subsidy programs to help working and chronically homeless families. But with those programs not yet in place, his administration is struggling to house the tens of thousands of people, including some 11,000 families, currently seeking shelter. With the city dependent on private landlords to supply space for shelters and nonprofit service providers to run them, it does not have many options about where to locate shelters. The Pan American Hotel is one of 11 shelters opened since the beginning of the year. A blocky seven-story structure with 216 rooms, it was purchased recently

units lacked kitchens. But in early June, facing more families seeking housing than it had units available, officials made an emergency agreement with a nonprofit shelter operator, Samaritan Village, and began moving families into the hotel. Because the hotel itself lacks a kitchen, for now meals are delivered. As of Tuesday, there were 648 people staying at hotel, including 350 children. Typically, the city consults extensively with local officials before opening a shelter, a process that can take up to a year. In this case, the Homeless Services Department notified the local City Council member on the evening before the first families were moved into the hotel, and other elected officials only later. □

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Fighting intensifies near MH17 disaster site in Ukraine



Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte, left, speaks during a press conference accompanied by Defense Minister Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert, center, and Foreign Minister Frans Timmermans, right, in The Hague, Netherlands, Sunday, July 27, 2014. Rutte explained to the media that his government has decided against sending armed troops to protect the crash site of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17, The Hague, Netherlands.

(AP Photo/Mike Corder)

DMITRY LOVETSKY
PETER LEONARD
Associated Press
DONETSK, Ukraine (AP) — Ukrainian armed forces mounted a major onslaught against pro-Russian separatist fighters Sunday in an attempt to gain control over the area where a Malaysia Airlines plane was downed earlier this month. Reports of the intensifying unrest in eastern Ukraine prompted a postponement of a trip to the site by a team of Dutch and Australian police officers who had planned to start searching for evidence and the remaining bodies. In the Netherlands, Prime Minister Mark Rutte said his government has rejected the idea of deploying armed troops to secure the crash site because there is no way they could achieve "military superiority" in a region where heavily armed pro-Russian rebels are battling Ukrainian government forces. "The option we looked at was a military option in

which you could secure the area so you can work in a stable environment," Rutte said. But "that the option would be such a provocation to the separatists that it could destabilize the situation." Ukraine's National Security Council said Sunday that government troops have encircled Horlivka, a key rebel stronghold, and that there had been fighting in other cities in the east. Horlivka lies around 20 miles (30 kilometers) north of the main rebel-held city of Donetsk. The armed forces "have increased assaults on territory held by pro-Russian mercenaries, destroyed checkpoints and positions and moved very close to Horlivka," the council said in a statement. A representative of the separatist military command in Donetsk confirmed that there had been fighting in Horlivka, but said that rebel fighters were holding their positions. Elsewhere, Russian state

news agency RIA Novosti reported Sunday that a column of Ukrainian armored personnel carriers, trucks and tanks had entered the town of Shakhtarsk, 10 miles (15 kilometers) west of the site of the Boeing 777 crash. Shakhtarsk is a strategic town in the area. By controlling the town, the Ukrainian army would cut off vital rebel supply lines. The government accused rebel forces of firing rockets Sunday on residential apartment blocks in Horlivka in what they said was an attempt to discredit the army and whip up anti-government sentiment. The separatist self-declared "Donetsk People's Republic" has accused the army of being responsible for that and other rocket at-

tacks in nearby cities. The Donetsk regional government — which is loyal to Kiev and based elsewhere since rebels took over the area — said Sunday in a statement that at least 13 people, including two children aged 1 and 5, were killed in fighting in Horlivka. It said another five people were killed as a result of clashes in a suburb north of Donetsk. New York-based Human Rights Watch last week condemned what it said was the Ukrainian government forces' practice of using unguided rockets in populated urban areas. It said that use of the rockets was a violation of international humanitarian law that "may amount to war crimes." □

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Officials:

Ebola kills top Liberian doctor, American infected

JONATHAN PAYE-LAYLEH
Associated Press
MONROVIA, Liberia (AP)

— One of Liberia's most high-profile doctors has died of Ebola, officials said

Sunday, and an American physician was being treated for the deadly virus, highlighting the risks facing health workers trying to combat an outbreak

that has killed more than 670 people in West Africa — the largest ever recorded.

Dr. Samuel Brisbane was treating Ebola patients at

the country's largest hospital, the John F. Kennedy Memorial Medical Center in Monrovia, when he fell ill. He died Saturday, said Tolbert Nyenswah, an assistant health minister. A Ugandan doctor died earlier this month.

The American, 33-year-old Dr. Kent Brantly, was in Liberia helping to respond to the outbreak that has killed 129 people nationwide when he fell ill, according to the North Carolina-based medical charity, Samaritan's Purse. He was receiving intensive medical care in a Monrovia hospital and was in stable condition, according to a spokeswoman for the aid group, Melissa Strickland. "We are hopeful, but he is certainly not out of the woods yet," she said. Early treatment improves a patient's chances of survival, and Strickland said Brantly recognized his own symptoms and began receiving

care immediately. There is no known cure for the highly contagious virus, which is one of the world's deadliest. At least 1,201 people have been infected in Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea, according to the World Health Organization, and 672 have died. Besides the Liberian fatalities, 319 people have died in Guinea and 224 in Sierra Leone. Ominously, Nigerian authorities said Friday that a Liberian man died of Ebola after flying from Monrovia to Lagos via Lome, Togo. The case underscored the difficulty of preventing Ebola victims from traveling given weak screening systems and the fact that the initial symptoms of the disease — including fever and sore throat — resemble many other illnesses. Health workers are among those at greatest risk of contracting the disease, which spreads through contact with bodily fluids. Photos of Brantly working in Liberia show him swathed head-to-toe in white protective coveralls, gloves and a head-and-face mask that he wore for hours a day while treating Ebola patients.

Earlier this year, the American was quoted in a posting about the dangers facing health workers trying to contain the disease. "In past Ebola outbreaks, many of the casualties have been health care workers who contracted the disease through their work caring for infected individuals," he said. There is no known cure for Ebola, which begins with symptoms including fever and sore throat and escalates to vomiting, diarrhea and internal and external bleeding. □



In this 2014 photo provided by the Samaritan's Purse aid organization, Dr. Kent Brantly, left, treats an Ebola patient at the Samaritan's Purse Ebola Case Management Center in Monrovia, Liberia. On Saturday, July 26, 2014, the North Carolina-based aid organization said Brantly tested positive for the disease and was being treated at a hospital in Monrovia.

(AP Photo/Samaritan's Purse)

38 killed as Libyan forces battle militias in east

MARIAM RIZK
Associated Press
CAIRO (AP)

— Heavy clashes between Libyan soldiers loyal to a renegade general and Islamist-led militias killed 38 people, health officials said Sunday, as fighting between rival militias around the capital's international airport raged on and European nations warned their citizens to leave.

Forces loyal to Gen. Khalifa Hifter battled militias in the eastern city of Benghazi in clashes that started Saturday and continued through early Sunday morning, a security official said. Commando forces regained control of four military camps captured by

Islamist militias in the past few days, the official said. The fighting killed eight militia fighters, including the brother of an alleged leader of an al-Qaida-inspired group, the official and a militia website statement said.

The statement published on the website of the powerful Islamist militia Rafallah Sahati confirmed the death of Ahmed al-Zahawi, brother of Mohammed al-Zahawi, the leader of Ansar al-Shariah. U.S. officials believe Ansar al-Shariah was behind the Sept. 11, 2012, attack in Benghazi that killed U.S. Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans.

Rockets fired during this

weekend's fighting hit civilian homes, causing casualties and wounding dozens of people, health officials said.

All officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to brief reporters.

More than two months ago, when Hifter started his offensive to crush Islamist militias and their political backers, Mohammed al-Zahawi vowed to continue fighting, calling Hifter an "American agent." Hifter once served as dictator Moammar Gadhafi's top military official but later defected and spent years in the U.S., though American officials say they have not been in recent contact

with him.

The fighting in Benghazi came as fierce clashes resumed between rival Libyan militias for control of Tripoli's international airport. The battle began two weeks ago when Islamist-led militias — mostly from the western city of Misrata — launched a surprise assault on the airport, under control of rival militias from the western mountain town of Zintan.

The fighting has killed dozens of people and forced residents to flee. Associated Press video of clashes Saturday showed a jet airplane burning and heavy smoke rising over it, as militiamen fired rockets and heavy machine guns. □



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Holy month of Ramadan is a big boon for retailers

AYA BATRAWY
Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) Glitzy billboards in the Middle East and postage stamps in the U.S. Advertisements for lingerie and sales on modest skirts. Lavish buffets and cell-

time to sell.

U.S. fashion house DKNY launched a Ramadan collection aimed at wealthy Arab shoppers. The collection was carried in DKNY outlets throughout the Gulf. Tamara Al Gabbani, a model and stylist for the

first week of Ramadan.

A Macy's department store in California welcomed Muslim shoppers with a display at the entrance that said "Happy Ramadan." The U.S. Postal Service issues special commemorative stamps for Eid al-Fitr,

in North America and 60 million are in Europe.

According to AMCC co-founder Sabiha Ansari, Muslim spending power in the U.S. is measured at more than \$100 billion. She said she knew of at least one Starbucks in the U.S. that stayed open later during Ramadan for customers fasting during the day.

"We're hoping it's the start for other retailers to recognize Muslims as a group that is a strong economic force," she said. "American Muslims are educated, trendy and economically well-off. They want to integrate the values of their faith with the values of being an American, and this can be a very positive aspect." Ramadan is meant to be challenging to the mind, body and spirit. Many Muslims are concerned that Ramadan's aim to draw worshippers away from indulging in the material world is being eroded.

Many took to Twitter to express their confusion over a lingerie ad in a mall in Durban, South Africa, that featured a model looking

seductively at the camera. Only her bra strap and shoulder show, with the rest of her décolletage blacked out under the words "Ramadan Kareem," or "Happy Ramadan," written in gold.

The biggest commercialization of Ramadan is concentrated in countries where Muslims are in the majority. The streets of major cities in the Middle East and South Asia are filled with billboards about Ramadan. One McDonald's ad in Islamabad shows a mosque calling on people to "Dine Divine."

Carmudi, a website for buying and selling cars, said it is offering a variety of deals for residents of the United Arab Emirates "to celebrate the holy spirit of the season. So dig into your pockets."

Luxury brand Montblanc urged customers to "celebrate Ramadan in its true spirit with an exciting range of gifts."

The trendy Sauce boutique in the Emirates sells bejeweled Ramadan-themed purses. □



Part of the DKNY Ramadan collection is seen on display at a shopping mall in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Fashion house DKNY launched a Ramadan collection just before the holy month began aimed at wealthy Arab shoppers, and a Macy's department store in California welcomed Muslim shoppers with a display at the entrance showcasing an Arabesque design that said "Happy Ramadan."

(AP Photo/Kamran Jebreili)

phone apps.

Ramadan, Islam's holiest month, is a boon for retailers in the Middle East, South Asia and beyond. And while some Muslims welcome it as a positive sign, others see it as commercialization of a sacred time of year.

Intended to be a month-long spiritual cleansing, Ramadan—which ends this weekend—is an exercise in self-restraint that commands Muslims to abstain from food and water from sunrise to sunset.

But for businesses, from California to Cairo, Dubai to Dhaka, Ramadan is also a

collection, said she is glad DKNY took a risk with the modest outfits that include loose skirts and dresses.

"I think it is really, really important the world come together as one and the fact that an American, New York-based brand is coming to us and saying, 'Hey, we acknowledge this beautiful time of year that you have, and we have made this just for you.' I love that," she said.

Al Gabbani also has a clothing line that caters to Gulf Arab women. More than 50 elaborately designed kaftans, which cost up to \$550, sold out in the

the three-day celebration that marks the end of Ramadan.

Google has gotten in on the action with a special Ramadan portal featuring photos of people around the world breaking their fast at sunset, as well as popular recipes. Several cellphone companies offer Ramadan apps to help people track their prayer and acts of worship.

A marketing study released by the American Muslim Consumer Consortium in conjunction with Dinar Standard found that of the 2 billion Muslims worldwide, approximately 9 million are

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Venezuela ruling party faces dissent at convention

HANNAH DREIER
Associated Press
CARACAS, Venezuela
(AP) — Venezuela's socialist party is holding its first national convention since the death last year of President Hugo Chavez, with delegates hoping to quell infighting and discontent about party leadership.

On Saturday, President Nicolas Maduro opened the congress of the United Socialist Party of Venezuela with a speech encouraging party members to continue the revolutionary project. The real work will take place behind the scenes, with pragmatists and hardliners battling to hammer out a vision for the coming year.

Hundreds of delegates will consider proposals from members all over the country, many of which concern the escalating economic crisis that has gripped the oil-rich country, provoking widespread shortages and soaring inflation.

The convention is the third of its kind since the party's formation in 2008. But the scene is anything but uni-

fied. Rank-and-file members are unhappy that they did not get more of a role in pick-

ing this year's delegates, according to Diego Moya-Ocampos, an analyst with the London-based consult-

ing firm IHS Global Insight. "There's a perception that the delegates were imposed by the top leadership, and there has not been a debate," Moya-Ocampos said.

Just a fraction of the party's 7 million members cast ballots last weekend to choose delegates for the convention. Among those chosen was Maduro's college-aged son, Nicolas Ernesto Maduro.

While Chavez held together a wide-ranging coalition by force of character and charisma, his more mild-mannered successor has struggled to project the same kind of leadership. Maduro won a narrow victory in last year's elections to replace his mentor Chavez, and in the months since, his popularity ratings have tumbled below 40 percent.

Protests against Venezuela's economic chaos gripped the country for much of the spring.

As the street movement has dissipated, the power struggles within the Chavista regime have become increasingly public.

Maduro fired a high-level Marxist economic adviser in June, prompting a volley of criticism from the old-school revolutionaries in his party, as well as from independent Chavista groups. Supporters of the ruling party are hoping Maduro will use the convention to establish his place as the head of Venezuela's socialist movement, and quell divisions. Outside analysts agree that to begin remedying the economic crisis, Maduro will need to firm up his base of support, and take tough, likely unpopular, measures that will be seen as a currency devaluation. □



Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro greets supporters in Caracas, Venezuela. Venezuela's socialist party is holding its first national convention since the death last year of President Hugo Chavez, with delegates hoping to quell infighting and discontent about party leadership.

(AP Photo/Fernando Llano)

Taliban offensive seeks to retake Afghan province

CARLOTTA GALL
TAIMOOR SHAH
© 2014 New York Times

KABUL, Afghanistan — A sudden Taliban offensive in the southern province of Kandahar in recent days has led to some of the heaviest protracted fighting there in years, officials said Sunday. The militants overran a district center on the border with Pakistan, battled government forces near the provincial capital and staged a suicide-bomber attack on a home of the province's powerful security chief.

Kandahar, a crucial base of Taliban power since the 1990s, had enjoyed much improved security since the surge of U.S. troops pushed the Taliban out in 2010. U.S.

forces still maintain a base at the Kandahar airport, but Afghan forces have aggressively taken the lead in the province under the security chief, Gen. Abdul Raziq, whose brutal tactics in fighting the Taliban have raised criticism, but have, nonetheless, been seen as effective.

In a rare statement over the weekend, the Taliban's supreme leader, Mullah Muhammad Omar, reiterated his determination to take back Kandahar province, where he founded the movement decades ago. The proof was borne out by a multifront offensive in Kandahar involving hundreds of Taliban fighters that was seemingly timed to take advantage of the

approaching Eid al-Fitr holiday, which closes the holy month of Ramadan.

Up to 100 Taliban, Pakistani and other foreign fighters attacked the district compound of Registan, the southernmost desert district of the province, on Saturday, Afghan officials said.

The battle raged for 10 hours as policemen fought for the compound, but their commander and five of his men were killed in the fighting as they ran out of ammunition, said Dawa Khan Minapal, a government spokesman in Kandahar. The area is remote, and army and police reinforcements were hours away across the red desert that gives the district its name.

Raziq had set off leading

security forces to the south to repel the Taliban and secure the border when news came of an attack on his home in Spinboldak, which borders Pakistan in the east. Six suicide bombers occupied a school near his home and aimed rockets and gunfire on the guest-house where his family was living.

The guards in charge of security of his house fought back, leading to an extended firefight in which one guard was killed and three others were wounded.

The bombers were all said to be dead. A civilian boy was also killed, but there were no casualties in Raziq's family, his spokesman, Zia Durani, said. □



At the Alhambra Casino & Shops: Enjoy Southern Comfort Food at The Hollywood Smokehouse!



EAGLE BEACH - The island's original smokehouse is enjoying their new location within the Alhambra Casino & Shops complex just off of Eagle Beach. Originally located in a historic building in San Nicolas owned and operated by the Bislick family since 1941, the closing of the refinery left owners Michael and Tina Bislick opting to keep their in-demand southern cuisine available to their loyal followers on the weekends under a tent in various spots of the island. The 5-star Trip Advisor restaurant went on to win the most recent Battle of the Food Trucks, prompting the couple to open a full-fledge restaurant again. The soft opening during the FIFA World Cup

2014 brought many football fans into the restaurant for much enjoyed afternoons of delicious food and drink, and they keep coming back in droves, now hooked on the sumptuous southern cuisine! The restaurant has been open full time since June 18th, and they continue to enjoy a strong tourist and local clientele.

The Hollywood Smokehouse menu includes hickory and apple wood smoked pulled pork, beef brisket, grouper, and burgers, as well as their award winning tacos, which can be washed down with unique, exciting hand-crafted cocktails—many made with freshly juiced fruits and moonshine from the bar menu! ☐



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val medley from 8:30pm to 10pm, and also enjoy the PopCorn Dancers.

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longer be just another Monday. No! It's Crazy Fish Monday at Bugaloe! Beautiful colorful platter of exquisite fish, yellow rice and rich vegetables is what you will be served from Chef Hernandez' kitchen



every Monday. Whether choosing Fried Fish Basket for only \$15 or a delicious Red Snapper for \$20, you wish it was Monday every day! Bugaloe is known for fun and craziness, so it was only logical Chef Marc Hernandez likes to go wild when it comes to his cooking. Caught in the morning, served at night is the true Bugaloe way,

maybe this explains its popularity from the start. Crazy Fish Monday is served from 5.30 p.m. till 10 p.m. Bugaloe Beach Bar & Grill is open daily from 9 a.m. till midnight. Start your day of right with a delicious cappuccino, or walk in to enjoy a casual lunch in between sunbathing. A few nights a week Bugaloe is host to some of the

best live bands of Aruba, while you are savoring dinner and enjoying the beautiful Aruba Sunset! Don't forget to make one hour in the day even happier at Bugaloe's daily Happy Hour from 5 till 6 p.m. Reservations are not necessary, just follow your hips to the music and the fun and smiles saluting you! ☐





From left to right, Belen Mozo, Beatriz Recari, Carlota Ciganda and Azahara Munoz, all of Spain, hold the trophy after winning the International Crown golf tournament Sunday, July 27, 2014, in Owings Mills, Md.
Associated Press

Spain sweeps to victory in International Crown

DAVID GINSBURG
AP Sports Writer
OWINGS MILLS, Maryland (AP) — Carlota Ciganda breezed to an early victory to set the tone and Spain won all four of its singles matches Sunday to capture the inaugural International Crown. Sweden finished second in the tournament that began Thursday with 32 players from eight countries. The top-seeded United States was among three teams eliminated Saturday, leaving five countries and 20 players to compete for the trophy. Fifth-seeded Spain began the final round tied for second behind Japan, but Ciganda immediately gave the Spaniards a boost by beating Na Yeon Choi of South Korea 8 and 6. Beatriz Recari followed with a 3-and-2 victory over Mikaela Parmlid of Sweden, and Belen Mozo clinched the tournament title with a 3-and-2 win over Moriya Jutanugarn of Thailand.

Continued on Page 20



Gordon wins record fifth race at Indy

Page 19

Jeff Gordon celebrates after winning the NASCAR Brickyard 400 auto race at Indianapolis Motor Speedway in Indianapolis, Sunday, July 27, 2014.
Associated Press

Italy's Vincenzo Nibali wins Tour de France

JAMEY KEATEN

Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — Vincenzo Nibali put his lungs and legs to work one last time, marching up to the winner's podium of the Tour de France and sighing deeply before the Italian anthem echoed over the Champs-Elysees. Chants of "Vin-cen-zo!" rang across the famed avenue for the Sicilian, who dominated the race nearly from the start three weeks ago and on Sunday became the first Italian to win cycling's greatest race since Marco Pantani in 1998.

Marcel Kittel of Germany won Stage 21 in a sprint, his fourth victory this year. Nibali cruised in 24 seconds later, easily retaining a lead of more than seven minutes on his closest rival.



Race winner Vincenzo Nibali of Italy, wearing the overall leader's yellow jersey, celebrates on the podium of the Tour de France in Paris, France, Sunday, July 27, 2014.

He received pats on the back, kissed his wife and infant daughter and was mobbed by cameras.

"Now that I find myself on the highest step on the Champs-Elysees podium, it's more beautiful than I ever imagined," Nibali, the Arc de Triomphe behind him, told the crowd. "I've never been this moved in all my life."

Nibali, likened by some as the emperor of the pack, conquered where others did not: notably Chris Froome of Britain, the 2013 Tour winner, and two-time champion Alberto Contador of Spain. Both crashed out with injuries before the halfway mark.

As if mountain climbs, bone-jarring cobblestones, crashes and rain-splattered rides weren't enough, Nibali faced the scrutiny that comes with the yellow jersey in a sport long damaged by drugs. Nibali, who calls himself "a flag-bearer of anti-doping," noted that his success came through pinpoint focus on this race as the season began and opportunistic attacks in which he was able to nibble seconds on his rivals. There were no eye-popping performances, as was the case when doping was so prevalent. The Astana team leader is only the sixth rider to win all three Grand Tours — France, Italy and Spain. His win comes 16 years after Pantani, a flamboyant rider, died from a drug overdose.

Nibali won four stages — a feat not equaled by a Tour winner since Lance Armstrong won five a decade ago. The Italian wore the yellow jersey for all but two stages since Stage 1. His 7-minute, 37-second margin over runner-up Jean-Christophe Péraud equals that of Armstrong over Swiss rider Alex Zülle in 1999 — a result nullified because of doping. Before that, the biggest margin was that of Germany's Jan Ullrich: He beat Richard Virenque by just more than nine minutes in 1997.

In one of the subplots of this race, Péraud and third-placed Thibaut Pinot became the first Frenchmen to reach the Tour podium since Virenque in that year — a fact not lost on many homegrown fans. Pinot was 8:15 behind.

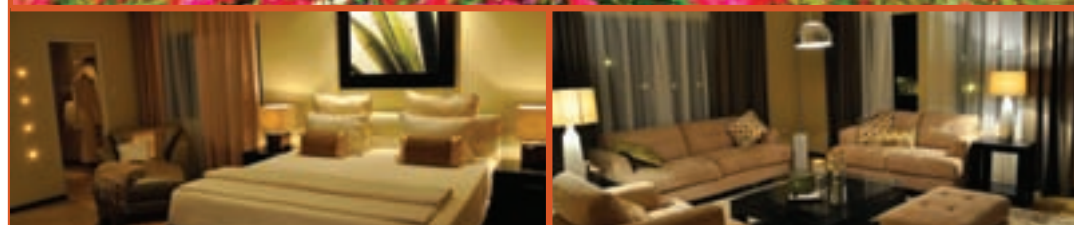
Armstrong, Ullrich and Virenque were caught in nearly a generation of doping scandals. Armstrong, in cycling's biggest scandal, admitted to doping and was stripped of his record seven Tour titles.

Nibali and many others in the peloton say that era is past. But his own victories in the 2010 Vuelta and the Italian Giro last year were tarnished by doping involving other riders. Cycling's governing body has made great efforts to halt drug use, but few cycling experts believe the pack is fully clean.

Authorities in Italy and France have been among the most aggressive in cracking down on doping, and the victory of an Italian, followed by two Frenchmen, could be a sign the peloton is getting cleaner.

Some suggested that Nibali was just the best among the riders still in this Tour. Colombia's Nairo Quintana, who won the Giro d'Italia in May, didn't ride. Bradley Wiggins, the 2012 Tour winner, was passed over so his Sky Team could focus on Froome. Then Froome and Contador pulled out.

But even before they left, Nibali had a two-second lead on them by winning Stage 2. □



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It's 'Jeff Gordon Day' at Indy for record 5th time

JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — With a fifth Brickyard 400 victory on the line Sunday, Jeff Gordon looked like the driver he was 20 years ago.

Gordon nailed the final restart of the race — no given because restarts have been his Achilles heel — to pass Hendrick Motorsports teammate Kasey Kahne with 17 laps remaining at Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

His power move from the outside lane past Kahne put Gordon out front for good, and he kicked it into cruise control for a NASCAR-record fifth victory at historic Indy. The win came on the 20th anniversary celebration of Gordon's win in the inaugural Brickyard 400, and on "Jeff Gordon Day" as declared by the Mayor of Indianapolis.

"I told him this morning that this was his day," said team owner Rick Hendrick.

The win moved Gordon into a tie with Michael Schumacher, whose five Formula One victories at Indy had been the gold standard.

"God, I finally had the restart of my life," Gordon screamed on his radio. He'd botched one earlier in the race, and the four-time NASCAR champion has struggled with restarts for some years.

So when a late caution gave Gordon one last shot at Kahne, who dominated and led a race-high 70 laps, Gordon and his No. 24 team knew the driver was in control of his own destiny.

Crew chief Alan Gustafson talked fuel mileage with the driver — Gordon had enough to get to the finish, and Kahne was cutting it close — but Gustafson said nothing about the pressure looming over the final restart.

"The restart is going to be the race,

really," Gustafson conceded in a television interview moments before the field went green. Nobody had any reason to worry as Gordon nailed it when he needed it most.

"I'm not very good on restarts and wasn't very good today, and I finally made the restart of my life

restart. I thought I made the right decision."

Kyle Busch finished second, 2.325 seconds behind Gordon, and was followed by Joe Gibbs Racing teammates Denny Hamlin and Matt Kenseth.

"It is just a small victory, we're still just inching our way there," Hamlin

Dale Earnhardt Jr.'s season-opening win in the Daytona 500.

"To see Jeff Gordon win is pretty special — it's kind of like Junior winning the 500 this year," Larson said.

Kevin Harvick, the polesitter and the driver with the car most everyone thought would be tough to beat, was eighth and followed by Earnhardt and rookie Austin Dillon. Carl Edwards finished 15th hours after Roush-Fenway Racing finally confirmed he was leaving the team at the end of the season.

Gordon, who won NASCAR's first race at storied Indy in 1994, also won the Brickyard in 1998, 2001 and 2004. There had been a lot of fanfare leading up to this race, though, as speedway officials celebrated Gordon's 20th anniversary win, who was 23 when he picked up just his second career victory. Eight days short of his 43rd birthday and the father of two young children, Gordon has 90 victories, third on the career list.

A tinge of gray at his temples, and his hat on backward, Gordon said it took extreme focus over the final 10 laps not to prematurely celebrate and cough away the win. It meant tuning out the crowd, which was on its feet and cheering him to the finish.

"I was trying not to let it get to me and not think about it too much," he said. "And yet you can't help it. It's such a big place and such an important victory and a crucial moment in the season and the championship, and those emotions take over."

"This one is for all those fans throughout the years and all weekend long — they're saying 'We believe you can get (championship) number five.' We got (Brickyard) No. 5!" □



Jeff Gordon celebrates after winning the NASCAR Brickyard 400 auto race at Indianapolis Motor Speedway in Indianapolis, Sunday, July 27, 2014.

Associated Press

when it counted most," Gordon said in Victory Lane. "I knew we had a great race car, we just needed to get out front."

Kahne plummeted to fifth after the restart, then ran out of gas on the final lap and had to nurse his car home to a sixth-place finish. He said he erred in picking the inside line for the restart.

"I should have chosen the top (lane), obviously," he said. "I pretty much let Jeff control that last

said about JGR's strong run.

Joey Logano was fifth in the highest-finishing car from Team Penske, which brought Juan Pablo Montoya to the race in an effort to get the win. Roger Penske has won a record 15 Indianapolis 500s, but is winless in the Brickyard. Montoya was never a factor and finished 23rd.

Kyle Larson, who grew up a Gordon fan, finished seventh and likened Gordon's win on Sunday to

International Crown

Continued from Page 17

That set off an impromptu celebration on the 16th hole that began with a jubilant Recari jumping into the arms of Ciganda.

Azahara Munoz completed the sweep by beating Ai Miyazato of Japan 2 and 1.

Points accumulated through Saturday were added to those amassed Sunday. Using the scoring system of two points for a win and one for a tie, the final order was: Spain (15 points), Sweden (11), South Korea (10), Japan (10), Thailand (9), United States (6), Taiwan (4) and Australia (3). "Even though we were maybe the underdogs because of the seedings, I knew deep inside that what you need in a team championship is what we have," Mozo said. "We have always played together, we have always won together. Coming in,

we knew we had that advantage over the other teams."

Japan entered the final round with a one-point lead but lost three of four matches, its lone win coming when Mika Miyazato beat Onnarin Sattayabanchot of Thailand 3 and 1. Sweden's Pernilla Lindberg topped Ariya Jutanugarn of Thailand 6 and 5, taking the lead for good at No. 1 and winning at 10, 11 and 12 to pull away. But the Swedes' bid to win the tournament fizzled when Caroline Hedwall lost to South Korea's Inbee Park, 4 and 2.

Although Sweden didn't come home with the trophy, at least one team member left with a fond memory.

"I've gotten to show myself on the biggest stage that I've been on so far and it feels like I've really take advantage of that," said Lindberg, 28, who was



From left to right, Belen Mozo, Beatriz Recari, Carlota Ciganda and Azahara Munoz, all of Spain, hold the trophy after winning the International Crown golf tournament Sunday, July 27, 2014, in Owings Mills, Md. Associated Press

playing in her first match-play event. "It's been so much fun, just over expectations for everyone."

Park, meanwhile, rode the momentum generated by Saturday's wild-card playoff win over the U.S. to breeze past Hedwall. That left South Korea with at least an outside shot of

capturing the event.

"It was important to win the first match. It kind of gives everyone hope and some energy to play well," Park said.

That's how it worked for Spain. Alas, South Korea could not sustain the momentum. Not long after Park won, Choi walked off

the course after 12 holes in her mismatch against Ciganda, and South Korea's chances grew even dimmer when I.K. Kim lost to Pornanong Phatlum of Thailand 1 up.

So Yeon Ryu's 1-up win over Sakura Yokomine of Japan left South Korea at 2-2 for the afternoon. □

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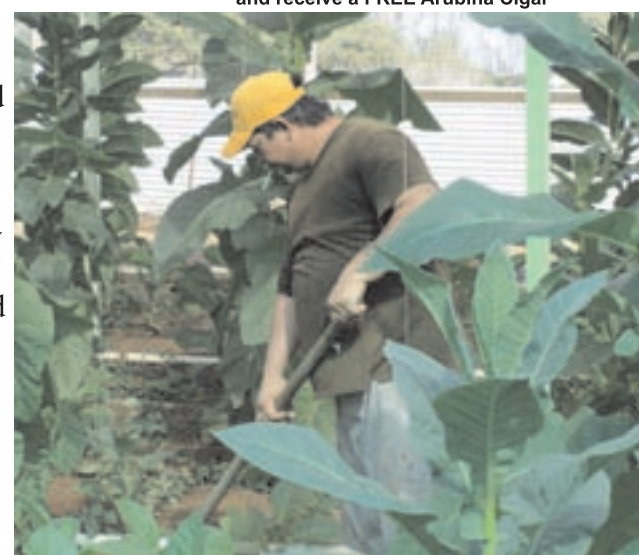


ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi, a true native Aruban started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced hand rolled cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi always had a interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crops. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba, he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The whole process took him 10 years to perfect. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the moulding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. Their handmade cigar box is specially designed with their "Aruhiba" logo. Petrocchi considers

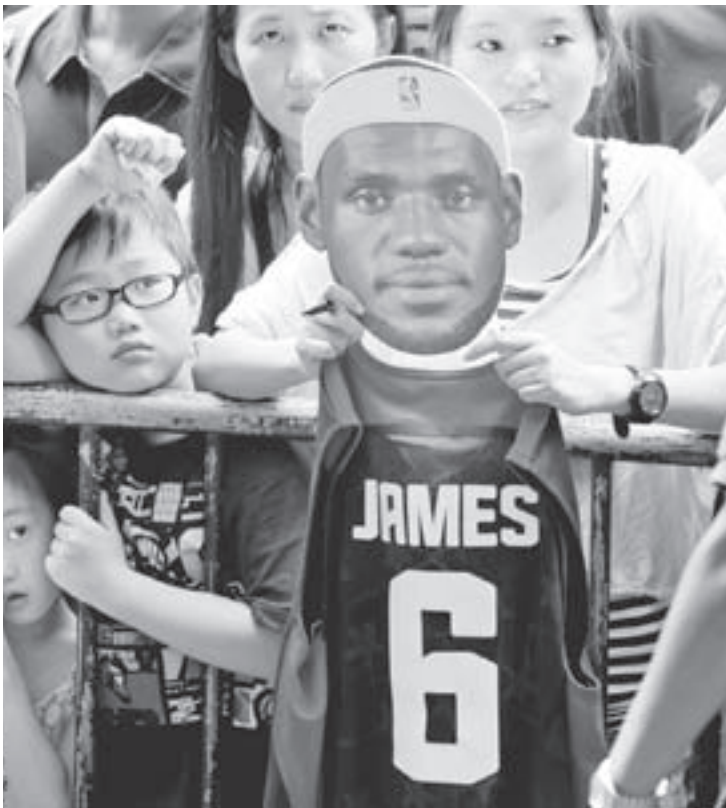
Aruhiba as a promotion for Aruba through its fine cigars. The company sells Aruhiba to the international markets as well. Visit their retail store located in front of the Historic Dutch Windmill in front of the Westin Resort, with any purchase of \$20 and up you receive a free "Aruhiba" cigar or ask for their gift box of 5 cigars get 1 FREE for only \$37. They open from Monday to Saturday from 9 am till 6:30 pm and on Sundays from 10 am to 4 pm. Aruhiba cigars are now available at the gift stores in your resort and at well-known cigar stores. For their complete selection and attractive by the box prices visit their retail store. Tours are also

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Owner Benjamin Petrocchi



A fan of NBA star LeBron James holds a picture of James during a promotional event at a shopping district in Hong Kong as part of his China tour Wednesday, July 23, 2014.
Associated Press

LeBron deep-sixes number; will be No. 23 with Cavaliers

The Associated Press

LeBron James will go back to wearing jersey No. 23 in his return to Cleveland. James tweeted "23 it is! It's only right I go back. 23=6 We still family 6." The tweet included an Instagram post with photos of James holding his No. 23 Cavaliers jersey on draft night, later in a new version of the Cavs' jersey and one of him in his high school jersey.

James wore No. 6 in four seasons with Miami and with the U.S. Olympic team. He used No. 23 in high school and during seven seasons in Cleveland.

About 10 days ago, James turned to social media to help him choose which number he'll wear next season with the Cavaliers. James wrote "6 or 23...." on his Twitter account.

Coutts tells Kiwis to skip America's Cup meeting

BERNIE WILSON
AP Sports Writer

SAN DIEGO (AP) — After a week of bruising publicity, four teams expected to challenge for the America's Cup will meet with representatives of defending champion Oracle Team USA in London on Tuesday to discuss details of the next regatta.

Emirates Team New Zealand won't be attending, just as it didn't join in a statement Friday expressing support for the event.

Russell Coutts, CEO of Oracle Team USA, says the America's Cup Event Authority is working with the teams "to further define an event based on the published protocol."

Coutts says when he heard from another team that the Kiwis didn't want to want to proceed on that basis, "I rang them up and said, 'It's best that you not come.'" Teams from Britain, Italy, Sweden and France will attend.

Top-seeded Isner wins 2nd straight Atlanta title

MATT WINKELJOHN

Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Top-seeded John Isner overpowered Dudi Sela on Sunday to successfully defend his Atlanta Open title, blowing serve after serve past the 1.75-meter Israeli player in a 6-3, 6-4 victory.

Serving for the match, the 2.08-meter Isner fell behind 30-0 before Sela sent a backhand into the net, and then watched almost helplessly as the American ripped three straight aces for the win. Isner finished with 15 aces to Sela's two. Ranked 12th, Isner has won two of his nine career titles in Atlanta, where he also lost to Mardy Fish in the 2010 and 2011 finals and to eventual champion Andy Roddick in the 2012 semifinals.

In running his Atlanta



John Isner, of the United States, reaches for a shot from Dudi Sela, of Israel, in the Atlanta Open tennis tournament final on Sunday, July 27, 2014, in Atlanta. Isner won 6-3, 6-4.
Associated Press

of Sela's second serves.

Sela was playing in just his second ATP final after losing to Roddick in Beijing in 2008.

Isner earned \$103,100, and Sela made \$54,300.

American Jack Sock and Canadian Vasek Pospisil won the doubles title. Sock and Pospisil, the Wimbledon doubles winners three weeks ago in their first tournament together, beat Americans Steve Johnson and Sam Querrey 6-3, 5-7, 10-5.

Cuevas wins Croatia Open final

UMAG, Croatia (AP) — Uruguayan qualifier Pablo Cuevas beat defending champion Tommy Robredo of Spain 6-3, 6-4 on Sunday to win the Croatia Open final after ousting top-seeded Fabio Fognini of Italy earlier the same day.

The second-seeded Robredo had two break points at 1-1 in the first set, but it was Cuevas who first broke in the sixth game for a 4-2 lead.

Cuevas went ahead 2-0 in the second set and broke the 32-year-old Robredo's serve once more in the fifth game. Robredo had a break point to level to 4-4. Robredo hit 36 winners compared to Cuevas' 26, but had 36 unforced errors against 19 for Cuevas.

Cuevas won his maiden ATP title earlier this month at the Swedish Open in

Bastad. He is the second qualifier to win an ATP World Tour tournament this year after Slovakia's Martin Klizan at Munich in May.

"I was happy to win the first title, now two in a row make me even happier," Cuevas said. "And this one was tougher to win, because I had to play in qualifying as well. I was very focused during the week, now I am really tired."

In his past two attempts in Umag, Cuevas had never gone beyond the second round.

"Pablo played a great match, he made no mistake," Robredo said. "There were some balls that might have changed the match, but it did not go my way. He was better than me in the first set from the baseline, so I had to change tactics, to be more aggressive."

Robredo reached the final by defeating third-seeded Marin Cilic of Croatia 7-6 (10), 6-3 earlier Sunday, while Cuevas upset Fognini 6-3, 6-4.

Heavy rain on Saturday caused the semifinals to be postponed until Sunday. Andujar beats Monaco in Swiss Open final

GSTAAD, Switzerland (AP) — Pablo Andujar of Spain won his first title in more than two years on Sunday, beating Juan Monaco of Argentina 6-3, 7-5 in the Swiss Open final.



Pablo Andujar of Spain, celebrates with the trophy after he won the final match against Juan Monaco of Argentina at the Swiss Open tennis tournament in Gstaad, Switzerland, Sunday, July 27, 2014.
Associated Press

record to 16-3, the former University of Georgia star had the crowd on his side on a hot afternoon under bright sun.

Isner served beyond 225 kph on several occasions, while Sela was in the 185 kph range. Isner also crushed Sela's second serves, which often traveled at around 130 mph, to win 61 percent

The Big Hurt and Joe Torre headline HOF class

JOHN KEKIS

AP Sports Writer

COOPERSTOWN, New

York (AP) — Frank Thomas choked back tears, Joe Torre apologized for leaving people out of his speech and Tony La Russa said he felt uneasy. Being enshrined in the Hall of Fame can have those effects, even on the greats. Thomas, pitchers Tom Glavine and Greg Maddux, and managers Bobby Cox, Torre and La Russa were inducted into the baseball shrine Sunday, and all paid special tribute to their families before an adoring crowd of nearly 50,000.

"I'm speechless. Thanks for having me in your club," Thomas said, getting emotional as he remembered his late father. "Frank Sr., I know you're watching. Without you, I know 100 percent I wouldn't be here in Cooperstown today. You always preached to me,



National Baseball Hall of Fame inductees, from left, Bobby Cox, Tony La Russa, Tom Glavine, Frank Thomas, Greg Maddux and Joe Torre hold their plaques after an induction ceremony at the Clark Sports Center on Sunday, July 27, 2014, in Cooperstown, N.Y. **Associated Press**

"You can be someone special if you really work at it." I took that to heart, Pop." "Mom, I thank you for all the motherly love and support. I know it wasn't easy." The 46-year old Thomas, the first player elected to

the Hall who spent more than half of his time as a designated hitter, batted .301 with 521 home runs and 1,704 RBIs in a 19-year career mostly with the Chicago White Sox. He's the only player in major league

history to log seven straight seasons with a .300 average, 20 homers, 100 RBIs and 100 walks.

Ever the diplomat as a manager, Torre somehow managed to assuage the most demanding of owners in George Steinbrenner, maintaining his coolness while keeping all those egos in check after taking over in 1996. The result: 10 division titles, six AL pennants and four World Series triumphs in 12 years as he helped restore the luster to baseball's most successful franchise and resurrected his own career after three firings. Torre, the only man to amass more than 2,000 hits (2,342) and win more than 2,000 games as a manager, was last to speak, and in closing delivered a familiar message.

"Baseball is a game of life. It's not perfect, but it feels like it is," said the 74-year-old Torre, who apologized afterward for forgetting to include the Steinbrenner family in his speech. "That's the magic of it. We are responsible for giving it the respect it deserves. Our sport is part of the American soul, and it's ours to borrow — just for a while." "If all of us who love baseball and are doing our jobs, then those who get the game from us will be as proud to be a part of it as we were. And we are. This game is a gift, and I am

humbled, very humbled, to accept its greatest honor." The day was a reunion of sorts for the city of Atlanta. Glavine, Maddux and Cox were part of a remarkable run of success by the Braves. They won an unprecedented 14 straight division titles and made 15 playoff appearances, winning the city's lone major professional sports title.

"I'm truly humbled to stand here before you," Cox said. "To Tom Glavine and Greg Maddux, and I have to mention the third member of the big three — John Smoltz — I can honestly say I would not be standing here if it weren't for you guys." Smoltz, part of the MLB Network telecast of the event and eligible for induction next year, flashed a smile in return for the compliment.

Glavine was on the mound when the Braves won Game 6 to clinch the 1995 World Series, pitching one-hit ball over eight innings in a 1-0 victory over Cleveland. And the slender lefty was one of those rare athletes, drafted by the Braves and the Los Angeles Kings of the National Hockey League. "I had a difficult choice to make, and as a left-handed pitcher I thought that was the thing that would set me apart and make baseball the smartest decision," Glavine said. "Of course, I always wondered what would have happened had I taken up hockey." "In my mind, since I was drafted ahead of two Hall of Famers in Luc Robitaille and Brett Hull, that obviously means I would have been a Hall of Famer in hockey, too," Glavine chuckled as the crowd cheered. "But I'm positive I made the right choice."

The 48-year-old Maddux went 355-227 with a career ERA of 3.16 in 23 seasons with the Braves, Cubs, Padres and Dodgers and ranks eighth on the career wins list. He won four straight Cy Young Awards in the 1990s and won 15 or more games for 17 straight seasons with his pinpoint control. □

Baseball HoF cuts election eligibility to 10 years

COOPERSTOWN, New York (AP) — Barry Bonds, Roger Clemens, Sammy Sosa and Mark McGwire will have less time to remain eligible for the Baseball Hall of Fame ballot under changes made on Saturday.

The Hall of Fame's board cut a player's eligibility from 15 years to 10, which gives McGwire a maximum of two more appearances on the writers' ballot. Bonds, Clemens and Sosa, shunned so far along with other Steroids Era stars, can be considered up to eight more times each by the Baseball Writers' Association of America.

Clemens, a seven-time Cy Young Award winner, dropped from 37.6 percent to 35.4 last year in his second ballot appearance, well short of the 75 percent needed for election. Bonds, a seven-time MVP and Major League Baseball's career home runs leader, fell from 36.2 percent to 34.7.



Los Angeles Dodgers manager Don Mattingly stands in the dugout before a baseball game against the Pittsburgh Pirates in Pittsburgh Monday, July 21, 2014. **Associated Press**

McGwire dropped from 16.9 percent to 11, down from a peak of 25.6 in 2008. Sosa, who hit 609 homers, dropped from 12.5 percent to 7.2 — close to falling below the 5 percent threshold for remaining on the ballot. Three players with 11-15 years will remain eligible: Don Mattingly (15th year in 2015), Alan Trammell (14th) and Lee Smith (13th). This is just the second

change in voting rules in 30 years. In 1991, players on MLB's permanent ineligible list were barred from the ballot, a move that prevented career hits leader Pete Rose from being considered. Rose agreed to a lifetime ban in 1989 after an investigation by MLB concluded he bet on the Cincinnati Reds to win while managing the team. □

UConn makes 3-D copies of antique instrument parts

PAT EATON-ROBB

Associated Press

STORRS, Connecticut (AP) — Researchers at the University of Connecticut are using medical technology to breathe new life into some antique musical instruments. Dr. Robert Howe, a reproductive endocrinologist in East Longmeadow, Massachusetts, says his medical practice showed him how computerized tomography could make precise 3-D images of body parts. As a student of music history, he realized the same CT scanning technology could help him study delicate musical instruments from the past.

Howe, who is also a doctoral student in music theory and history at UConn, last year brought his idea to music theory professor Richard Bass, who contacted Sina Shahbazmohamadi, an engineer and the school's director for advanced 3-D imaging.

Together, they have developed a process for using CT scanning technology not only to make images of those instruments but also to print 3-D copies of parts that will allow more of them to be played. This week, they began seeking a patent for that process.

The CT scanning alone has yielded exciting results, including images that show the construction of an 18th-century English horn was much more complicated than experts originally thought. Because nobody would allow one of the rare and delicate instruments to be cut open, experts couldn't see the intricate set of bores and wooden pins used to hold it together, Howe said. The construction also didn't show up on a traditional X-ray because the pins are made of the same material as the horn.

A breakthrough by Shahbazmohamadi allowed the team to scan metal and wood at the same time. That allowed them to get exact 3-D images of items such as a mouthpiece from one of the first saxophones made by Adolphe Sax in the 19th century.

"Only three original mouthpieces are known to exist in the entire world," Howe said.

Before this technology, an attempt to copy the handmade part would have required measuring it with metal calipers and other instruments, which would have left marks. An artisan would then have to translate those measurements into tooling for a duplicate, a time-consuming and costly process.

So instead, musicians have been jury rigging modern mouthpieces to fit old saxophones as best they can. The musical results can be disappointing, Howe said.

Paul Cohen, a saxophonist who teaches at New York University, said Howe's work could go a long way in helping experts understand what centuries-old music was meant to sound like.

"If they can accurately reproduce the dimensions in the mouthpiece that Adolphe Sax himself invented, it would be of fundamental, seminal importance in understanding our instrument," he said. The UConn team scanned the original mouthpiece and, after some experimentation in density, produced a plastic replica on a 3-D printer that can be fitted to the original saxophone. The team also has scaled the imaging data to size to make mouthpieces for a range of Sax's horns, from B-flat bass to E-flat soprano.

"This is pretty darned good, and it's an \$18 piece," Howe said.



In this July 17, 2014 photo, Dr. Robert Howe, a medical doctor and a PhD candidate in music history, displays antique English horns at the University of Connecticut's Depot Campus in Mansfield, Conn.

Associated Press

"The technology is not only very, very accurate, but very inexpensive."

The images can be kept on file, and as the technology improves, machines can make exact copies in the original materials, Shahbazmohamadi said.

The same technology could eventually be used to make copies of entire instruments or to repair broken ones. With the computer technology, flaws in the original

can be fixed, he said.

Howe has already played one instrument, a 1740 recorder, with a replacement part made by the 3-D printer. "The universal availability of 3-D printing, which is happening as we wait, will make all this work very relevant and not just for musical instruments," Howe said. "The ability to measure and replicate items that are difficult to measure and replicate is going to explode." □

Lyft says it's starting New York City service

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) -- The on-demand ride-sharing app Lyft planned to start limited service in New York City on Friday night after reaching agreement with officials to resolve regulatory issues that prompted a lawsuit by the state.

New York's attorney general and Department of Financial Services said Lyft agreed to operate "in full compliance" with existing laws and regulations, and that it will start the new service with commercial drivers only. "Tonight, after making positive progress

with local and state leaders, Lyft will launch in all five boroughs of New York City," company spokeswoman Katie Dally said. "We've finalized an agreement to offer immediate access to our friendly, affordable rides through a TLC-licensed model beginning at 7 p.m." Dally said Lyft would expand the limited service in the coming weeks.

The New York City Taxi & Limousine Commission had posted a notice two weeks ago, in advance of the company's initial planned

startup in Brooklyn and Queens, that its so-called ride share service at that time had not complied with the commission's safety requirements and other licensing criteria to verify qualifications of its drivers and vehicles.

San Francisco-based Lyft's plan to bring its pink-mustachioed car service to the New York City market was then halted after the state officials sued. They claimed the company operates as a traditional for-hire livery service using mobile technology that is subject to

regulations, not a peer-to-peer transportation platform as claimed. Both sides have been in court-directed negotiations since. "We are firmly committed to the notion that regulators can work constructively with companies so that new ideas can come to the market - and that smart regulation should create an environment where innovators can compete," Attorney General Eric Schneiderman and Department of Financial Services Superintendent Ben Lawskey said in a joint statement. "We will

continue to work with Lyft so that any future business it undertakes meets that standard and protects consumer safety."

The taxi commission did not immediately comment on the agreement.

The officials and company also said it will suspend operations in Buffalo and Rochester Aug. 1 while resolving regulatory issues there. Dally said that Lyft will work with authorities "to align New York State's insurance laws and regulations with emerging technologies of the 21st century." □

Street Beat:

Global tensions don't dent enthusiasm for stocks

STEVE ROTHWELL
AP Markets Writer

A war breaks out between Israel and Hamas. An airliner is shot out of the sky in Ukraine. A Portuguese bank's finances look shaky. And the U.S. stock market's response? After dipping briefly on the bad news, it climbs higher.

The market's resilience this year — which has pushed it to a series of records and extended its five-year bull run — is driven by investors' optimism over the growth of the U.S. economy and record corporate earnings. That helped the market overcome its latest dip, on July 17th, when a passenger jet was shot down in eastern Ukraine and Israel invaded the Gaza Strip, raising investor worries that conflicts around the world could escalate and destabilize financial markets.

As they have all year, investors responded by using it as an opportunity to buy stocks. In fact, they've "bought on the dip" consistently for three years, keeping the market's slips from becoming slides. Stock pullbacks since 2011 have been rare and relatively small, and none have become severe enough to qualify as a correction, Wall Street parlance for a fall of 10 percent or more from a peak.

The lack of a correction for such a long period is unusual, because the Standard & Poor's 500 index experiences such a decline on average every 18 months, according to S&P Capital IQ research.

Many investors say that the uninterrupted rally is justified by the outlook for stocks. Central banks worldwide have policies in place aimed at stimulating economic growth, and U.S. corporate profits continue to rise, even in the first quarter, when the economy contracted.

That has driven the S&P 500 up 7 percent this year, not including reinvested dividends. That's on top of a 30 percent surge in 2013. The index closed Friday down 0.5 percent at 1,978.34, after closing at a record

1,987.98 a day earlier.

"The fundamental underpinnings of this bull market remain very much intact," says Katie Nixon, chief investment officer for wealth management at Northern Trust. In the U.S., the Federal Reserve has held short-term interest rates at close to zero for almost five years, and has bought \$3 trillion of bonds to hold down long-term rates. The Fed has been winding down

S&P 500 this year. Their dividend yield — which measures how much a company pays out in dividends each year compared with its stock price — stands at 3.5 percent. The yield on the 10-year government Treasury is 2.5 percent.

The stock market could suffer a sharp, but short, correction later this year once the Fed finishes withdrawing its stimulus and investors start to focus on when ex-

any kind of 10-plus percent correction, we just don't see it." The S&P 500 index has risen almost 72 percent since the end of the last market correction in October 2011. It has closed at an all-time high 27 times since the start of the year. Stocks have managed to rise even as the outlook for growth weakens.

The International Monetary Fund said Thursday that the global economy expand-



Trader Benedict Willis uses his mobile phone as he works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. Stocks are pricier, tensions between Russia and the West are mounting, and Israel has rolled into Gaza to stop a deadly air war. And yet investors shrug it all off and keep pushing the market higher.

its stimulus, but a rate increase isn't expected until at least 2015.

The European Central Bank in June introduced a raft of unusual measures meant to revive the eurozone economy by getting credit flowing to companies. Japan's central bank is also trying to stimulate that nation's economy.

While these policies have cut borrowing costs, they have also reduced the yields on bonds — and the income they generate for investors. As a result, investors have shifted their money to other assets, such as stocks, in the hunt for better income. That dynamic has supported the rally in stocks.

Utilities, which are regarded by some investors as a proxy for bonds because they are relatively stable and pay rich dividends, are the biggest gainers in the

actly the central bank will begin raising interest rates next year, says Robert Pavlik, chief market strategist at Banyan Partners.

"The market is going to focus more and more on when the Fed moves," said Pavlik. "That's the biggest chance for a correction to come at us."

But for now, investors are focused on company profits, and the outlook remains strong. Earnings for S&P 500 companies are expected to climb 7.8 percent in 2014, their fifth straight year of growth, helping investors overcome concerns about the Fed and rising political tensions.

"People are looking for something to justify a significant correction," says Dan Morris, global investment strategist for TIAA-CREF. "Yes, volatility is going to come back, that's obvious, but in terms of

ed less than it had previously forecast, slowed by weaker growth in the United States, Russia and developing economies. The lending organization predicted that global growth will be 3.4 percent in 2014, below its April forecast of 3.7 percent.

In Europe, growth is recovering but weak. During the first quarter of 2014, the eurozone grew by a paltry 0.2 percent. Last week's market action, a big dip followed by a quick rebound, has happened on other occasions this year. The S&P 500 slumped 1.2 percent July 17, the biggest one day drop in more than three months, as investors worried that geopolitical tensions would escalate after a Malaysian airliner was shot down over rebel-held eastern Ukraine. □

Continued on Page 27

US sees drop in long-term unemployed

FLOYD NORRIS

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The long-term unemployment rate, which soared in 2009 to heights not seen since the Great Depression, is finally declining rapidly. The proportion of the workforce that has been unemployed for at least 27 weeks has fallen to 1.98 percent, less than half the record high of 4.4 percent reached in 2010.

Since the end of 2013, "the long-term unemployment rate dropped 0.5 percentage point, thereby accounting for almost the entire decline" in the overall unemployment rate, two Federal Reserve Board economists, Tomaz Cajner and David Ratner, pointed out in a note published by the Fed this week.

As a result, for the first time in five years, less than a third of all unemployed workers have been out of work for at least six months. In the first six months of 2014, that figure dropped at the fastest rate in more than half a century.

"The improvement in the labor market is reaching the long-term unemployed," said Heidi Shierholz, an economist at the Economic Policy Institute. "They are benefiting from the modest but measurable improvement in the labor market."

And yet the level of long-term unemployment remains high by historical standards. During the double-dip recessions of the early 1980s, the overall unemployment rate peaked at 10.8 percent, well above the 10 percent peak in the recent recession. And now, more than six years after the recession began, the overall unemployment rate of 6.1 percent is significantly lower than at a comparable point after the 1980s downturns began. But the long-term unemployment rate remains much higher than it was at this point in the earlier cycle.

The problem of long-term unemployment has not been limited to only certain kinds of workers. □

At Microsoft; Nadella and the Gathering Cloud

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No one could mistake Satya Nadella for Steve Ballmer, his predecessor as Microsoft CEO. The burly Ballmer brought high-decibel bumptiousness, while the svelte Nadella speaks in measured tones and quotes Eliot, Nietzsche and Rilke in his news conferences and memos.

The new style may in time grate as much as the old, but so far investors like what they see. Since Nadella took over in February, the technology giant's share price has climbed by 23 percent, to nearly \$45 – the highest since April 2000, shortly after Ballmer's tenure began.

On his first day in the job, Nadella said that he planned to make Microsoft fit for a "mobile-first and cloud-first world." Microsoft, the king of the desktop age, has been dethroned by the smartphone revolution, but Nadella thinks that

it down. The purchase of Nokia's mobile-telephone division, agreed upon last year but completed only in April, has worsened the drag. Two months' worth of the formerly Finnish phone-maker's figures added \$2 billion to revenue but subtracted \$692 million from operating profit. Total revenue in the three months to June, at \$23.4 billion, beat analysts' forecasts – but, thanks to Nokia, net income, at \$4.6 billion, fell short and was less than it had been a year before.

Nadella already has plans for the ex-Nokians. On July 17 he said that Microsoft would shed 18,000 of its 127,000 staff, and that 12,500 of them would come from the Nokia ranks. Microsoft will focus more on cheaper smartphones, the fastest-growing segment of the market, and exclusively on Windows Phone, its own operating system, which lags far behind Apple's iOS and Google's Android. An

buying more software and services by online subscription, and businesses are doing more computing in Microsoft's data centers, or in their own with Microsoft's help. Companies' spending on cloud services in the quarter was 147 percent more than a year before and is running at an annual rate of \$4.4 billion.

Some other things also have gone Nadella's way. Demand for personal computers has bottomed out, as companies at last replace old machines.

Looking ahead, Nadella is placing a good deal of faith in what he calls "dual users," people who use technology both at work and in their private lives. He believes that Microsoft can give them the software they need for both, and has reorganized some engineers at the company, previously split between consumer and business-to-business units, into single teams. It matters less to



Satya Nadella, CEO of Microsoft, talks during a media preview in New York.

(AP Photo/Mark Lennihan)

the ubiquity of its software, in both homes and businesses, still lends it power. On July 22 he gave his first proper progress report, in the shape of Microsoft's fourth-quarter results.

Those numbers showed that the cloud part of Nadella's plan is starting to lift Microsoft up, but that the mobile side is weighing

inexpensive range running on Android, which Nokia unveiled only in February, will be switched to Windows. An internal email leaked to tech Web sites implied that Nokia's more basic mobile telephones would be phased out.

On the cloud side, Nadella had cheerier news. Companies and consumers are

Microsoft than it used to whether that software runs on Windows, the operating system on which it grew rich and fat. To be sure, the firm still is pushing Windows hard, and not only in PCs and its own phones. It has waived royalties for devices with screens of less than nine inches in order to lure other manufacturers. □



Boeing Company chairman and chief executive officer Jim McNerney, during a news conference, in Le Bourget, France. McNerney apologized this weekend for saying the aerospace giant's employees were "cowering" during his tenure, a comment one union official called "a new low" in the company's relationship with workers.

(AP Photo/Remy de la Mauviniere)

Boeing CEO apologizes for 'cowering' workers remark

SEATTLE (AP) — Boeing Co. CEO Jim McNerney has apologized for saying the aerospace giant's employees were "cowering" during his tenure, a comment one union official called "a new low" in the company's relationship with workers.

McNerney made the remark during a Wednesday call with analysts when he was asked if he is thinking about retiring after he turns 65 next month. McNerney said he won't retire because "the heart will still be beating, the employees will still be cowering," The Seattle Times reported.

In an apology sent companywide this weekend, McNerney said the comment made during a call about the company's quarterly results was a "joke gone bad." Boeing employees and union leaders didn't find it funny.

Machinists union international President Tom Buffenbarger issued a statement Friday saying the "unfunny and unnecessary remarks" serve as a "reminder that the Jack Welch style of anti-personnel management is still alive and well at Boeing." Welch, the former General Electric

CEO, was known for his blunt candor as he closed factories and laid off thousands of employees in an effort to streamline the multinational conglomerate.

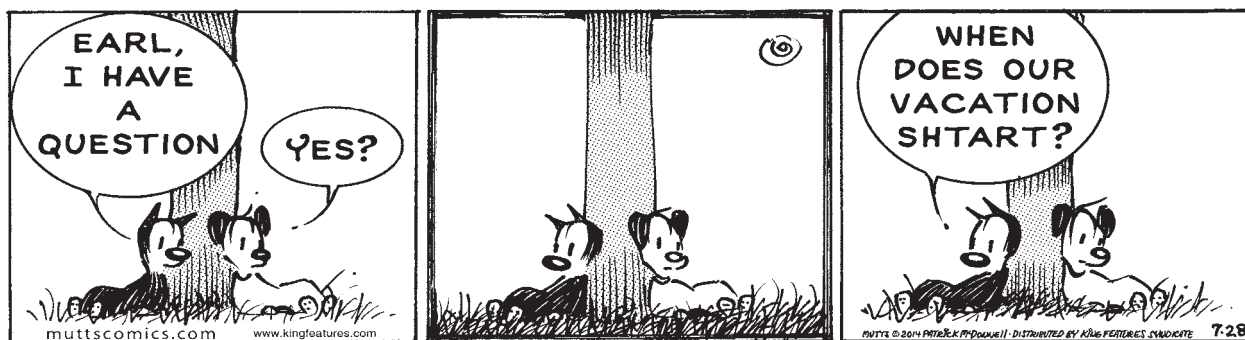
"If he is able to get his foot out of his mouth, the very next thing we hear from Mr. McNerney should be a sincere apology to all employees at Boeing," Buffenbarger added.

Jon Holden, president of Machinists' District 751, described it as "a new low" in employee-company relations. The union that represents engineers, the Society of Professional Engineering Employees in Aerospace, posted a printable, foldable poster on their website saying, "If I'm away from my desk, then I must be cowering somewhere. Please leave a note."

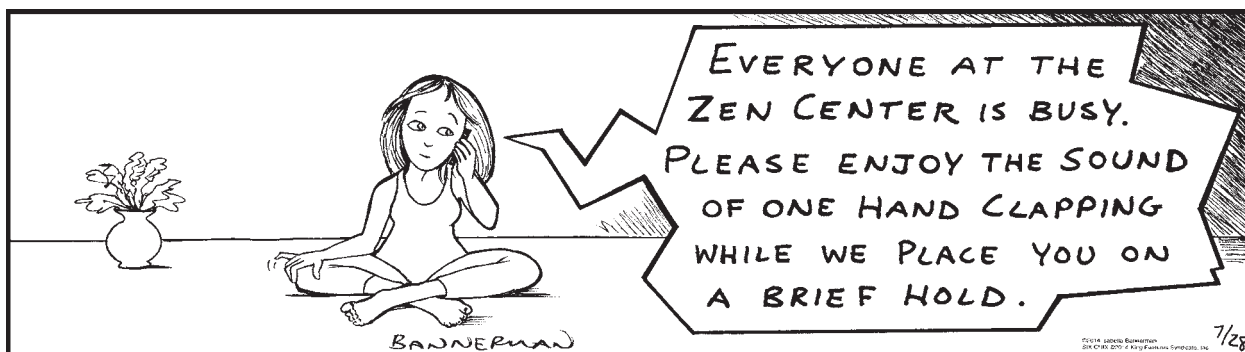
Boeing spokesman John Dern said McNerney apologized before the unions called for an apology.

The CEO's message said in part: "I was simply trying to make light of my age and tenure at the company on a question that I have been asked at least a dozen times over the past several weeks alone. □

Mutts



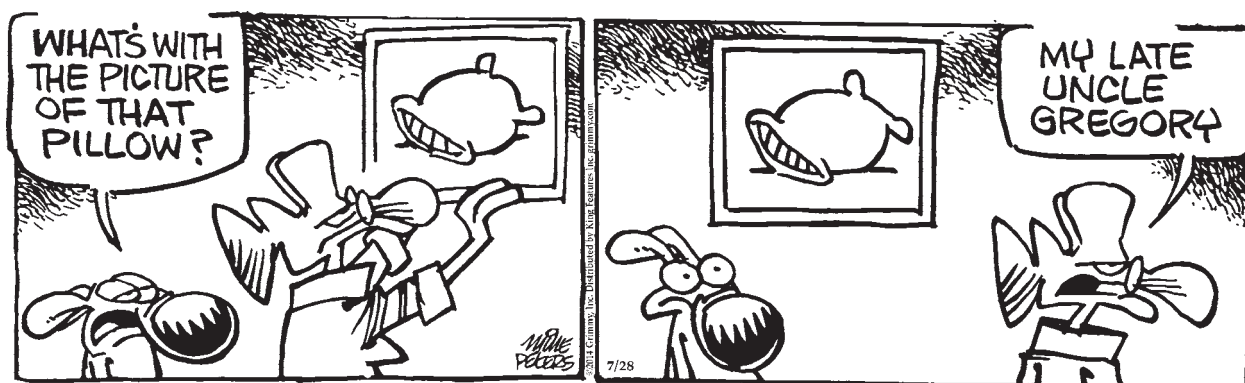
6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

			6	2				
5				7				2
	1		3	9	5		6	
8		4				7		3
	7	5		2		6	9	
3		2				5		1
	3		5	1	4		8	
6				3				7
			8		7			

Difficulty Level ★

7/28

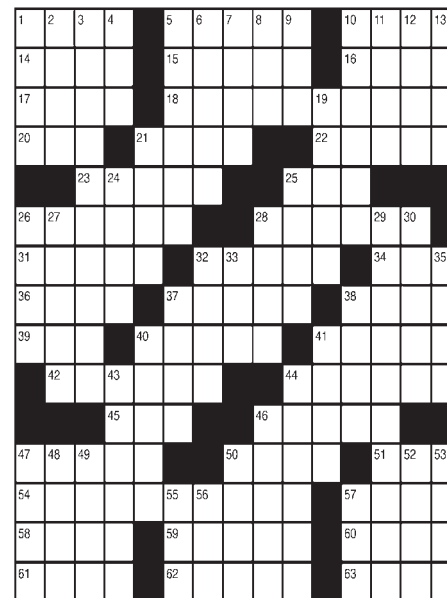
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Saturday's puzzle answer

5	4	2	1	3	9	8	7	6
7	1	9	8	6	2	5	3	4
3	8	6	7	5	4	9	2	1
9	7	8	3	2	1	4	6	5
2	6	3	5	4	8	7	1	9
1	5	4	6	9	7	3	8	2
4	3	1	9	8	6	2	5	7
8	2	7	4	1	5	6	9	3
6	9	5	2	7	3	1	4	8

ACROSS

- Foil-wrapped bit of Hershey's chocolate
- Aerosol
- Press with a small appliance
- Webster or Wyle
- Exact copy
- Scotia
- Engrave
- Quadrilaterals with 90° angles
- Corncob
- Mountaintop
- Amphitheater
- ...to... dust to dust...
- Emulate Jean-Claude Killy
- Stay
- Solemn promise
- ...out; makes smooth
- Ending for bed or home
- Eminem's style
- Largest digit
- Sparkle
- Spanish bull
- Fall month; abbr.
- Bramble
- Place for a spare tire
- Extremely hot
- ...weensy
- That fellow
- ... up; formed a row
- Speak without preparation
- Magician's stick
- Pounds; abbr.
- Blazing a trail
- Ooze out
- Thus
- Blockhead
- Drug addict
- Observes
- Riding horse
- Catch sight of



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

7/28/14

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

M	O	V	E	D	S	L	A	M	F	I	S	T
A	B	I	D	E	L	A	T	E	I	N	T	O
C	I	V	I	C	A	G	E	D	G	L	O	W
S	T	A	T	I	O	N	S	A	D	H	E	R
P	L	U	R	A	L	I	T	C	L	A	T	T
A	I	R	L	E	A	S	T	E	R	E	C	T
S	A	G	S	R	I	T	E	S	S	A	L	E
T	R	E	A	D	L	I	S	T	S	S	U	N
M	I	S	E	R	E	L	A	T	E	D		
A	L	T	E	R	E	D	A	P	E	S		
R	E	I	N	E	D	A	S	S	I	S	T	E
D	O	M	E	A	R	C	H	G	A	U	D	Y
O	N	E	S	T	A	M	E	H	I	N	G	E
R	E	D	S	E	Y	E	S	S	L	A	Y	S

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7/28/14

DOWN

- Leg joint
- Smidgen
- Way too slow
- Solemn-faced
- Birch or beech
- Hush money
- Take care of
- Thick-skinned
- horned beasts
- Colored slightly
- Knight's spear
- Mimics
- Urgent
- Theater box
- Chablis, e.g.
- Toot the horn
- Agile
- Ames & Koch
- Groove
- Take to court

Street Beat

Continued from Page 24

But instead of marking the start of a wider decline, the market rebounded on Friday as investors focused on strong corporate earnings in the U.S. Stocks also fell on July 10, although to a lesser degree, following worries about the soundness of Espirito Santo International, a holding company that is the largest shareholder in a group of firms, including the parent of Portugal's largest bank, Banco Espirito Santo. The specter of a European debt crisis prompted investors to push down the stock market 0.4 percent and snap up less risky assets like gold and governments bonds. And in June, after a break-away al-Qaida group seized large swathes of territory in Iraq and Syria, threatening to destabilize the entire region, stocks managed a 1.9 gain for the month. In April, stocks plunged as investors dumped biotech and Internet stocks. The technology-heavy Nasdaq composite index slumped

to its worst day since 2011 and dragged down other major indexes. Between April 3 and April 11 the S&P 500 dropped 4 percent, but by the middle of May the stock market had recovered and was trading at record levels again. The biggest one-day drop of 2014 was on Feb. 3. The index slumped 2.3 percent, falling to its lowest level of the year, as investors worried about the outlook for global growth and the impact of an unusually harsh winter on the U.S. economy. Since then the S&P 500 has gained 5.2 percent. While those drops were significant, they pale next to the losses experienced during a correction. During the last such slide, which ran from April to October 2011, the S&P 500 declined more than 19 percent on concerns about the fallout from Europe's debt crisis and impact of the U.S. government's credit rating being lowered. Northern Trust's Nixon says that it's only natural that the longer the market goes without a correction, the more investors will worry that a sell-off is imminent and avoid buying stocks. □

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Fukushima study: Think about unthinkable disasters

WASHINGTON (AP) — A U.S. science advisory report says Japan's Fukushima nuclear accident offers a key lesson to the nation's nuclear industry: Focus more on the highly unlikely but worst case scenarios.

That means thinking about earthquakes, floods, tsunamis, solar storms, multiple failures and situations that seem freakishly unusual, according to Thursday's National Academy of Sciences report. Those kinds of things triggered the world's three major nuclear accidents.

"We need to do a soul searching when it comes to the assumptions" of how to deal with worst case events, said University of Southern California engineering professor Najmedin Meshkati, the panel's technical adviser. Engineers should "think about something that could happen once every, perhaps 1,000 years" but that's not really part of their training or nature, he said.

"You have to totally change your mode of thinking because complacency and hubris is the worst enemy to nuclear safety," Meshkati said in an interview.

The report said the 2011 Japanese accident, caused by an earthquake and tsunami, should not have been a surprise. The report says another Japanese nuclear power plant also hit by the tsunami was closer to the quake's fault. But the Onagawa plant wasn't damaged because quakes and flooding were considered when it was built.



This March 24, 2011, file photo shows a young evacuee being screened at a shelter for leaked radiation from the damaged Fukushima nuclear plant in Fukushima, Fukushima prefecture, Japan.

Associated Press

Onagawa had crucial backup electricity available for when the main power went down, as opposed to Fukushima which had emergency generators in a basement that flooded. Onagawa's operators had "a different mindset" than the executives who ran Fukushima, Meshkati said.

The other two nuclear accidents — at Pennsylvania's Three Mile Island and Ukraine's Chernobyl — were caused by multiple system failures.

Lee Clarke, a Rutgers University risk expert and author of the book "Worst Cases," criticized the academy's report as too weak. He said the tone of the report made it seem like the accident was unpredictable and caught reasonable people by surprise "and it shouldn't have." But the report itself said the "the Fukushima

accident was not a technical surprise."

David Lochbaum of the activist group Union of Concerned Scientists said the problem is that

federal law financially protects the U.S. nuclear industry from accidents gives utilities little incentive to spend money on low-probability, high-con-

sequence problems.

But Nuclear Energy Institute senior vice president Anthony Pietrangolo said the American nuclear industry has already taken several steps to shore up backup power and deal with natural disasters.

"We cannot let such an accident happen here," he said in a statement.

Another issue the report raised was about how far radiation may go in a worst case accident.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission orders plants to have emergency plans for a zone of 10 miles around a nuclear plant. But the academy study said Fukushima showed that "may prove inadequate" if a similar accident happened in the U.S. People nearly 19 miles away in Japan needed protection from radiation. But the committee would not say what would be a good emergency zone. □

U.S. plans widespread seismic testing of sea floor

WAYNE PARRY

Associated Press

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey (AP) — The U.S. gov-

ernment is planning to use sound blasting to conduct research on the ocean floor along most of the East Coast, using technology similar to that which led to a court battle by environmentalists in New Jersey.

The U.S. Geological Survey plans to map the outer limits of the continental shelf and study underwater landslides that would help predict where and when tsunamis might occur. But environmentalists say it could cause the same type of marine life damage they fought unsuccessfully to prevent this month off New Jersey.

"New Jersey's marine life, fisheries and coastal economy can't get a break," said Cindy Zipf, executive director of Clean Ocean Action, which led the bat-

tle to block a sound blasting research plan.

Although it involves the same basic technology, the new plan is much wider-ranging. It would begin near the U.S.-Canadian offshore border and extend as far south as Florida. John Haines, coordinator of the Geological Survey's coastal and marine geology program, said his research will be low-impact. It is designed to more precisely map the far reaches of the continental shelf to better determine where the United States' exclusive rights to undersea resources such as fish and shellfish extend. It is not being done to map potential oil, gas or mineral deposits, he said.

"As hard as it is to believe, we don't know in the U.S. where on the seabed our right to protect and use resources ends," he said.

Data from the study also could show which areas

of the U.S. and Caribbean coasts could be vulnerable to tsunamis.

The Geological Survey study is due to run for about three weeks sometime between August and September this year, and a similar period next year, Haines said.

Zipf said researchers would blast the ocean floor with sound waves measuring from 236 to 265 decibels every 20 to 24 seconds for at least 17 days each year of the survey.

Environmentalists say the noise could harm or even kill marine life including whales, dolphins and turtles. Haines said his group is sensitive to those concerns and will take steps to minimize harm to marine animals, including stopping work when animals are seen nearby.

The plan still needs to be approved by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. □



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At 60, Newport Jazz Fest looks to the future

CHARLES J. GANS

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Newport Jazz Festival founder George Wein is more interested in where jazz is going than in where it's been as he marks the 60th anniversary of the granddaddy of all outdoor jazz festivals. That's why the 88-year-old Wein is celebrating the milestone by adding a third day of music at Fort Adams Park on Rhode Island's Narragansett Bay dedicated to emerging artists such as trumpeter Amir ElSaffar's Middle Eastern-influenced quintet, the jazz-funk-rock band Snarky Puppy and Darcy James Argue's Secret Society.

"The focus of this year's festival is what is the future of jazz," said Wein, interviewed at his apartment on Manhattan's East Side. "We can never ignore the history of the music, but at the same time, there is such

energy and spirit among young musicians today. We try to find the ones that are creative and give them a stage to be heard."

Among those making their debut at Newport, which runs from Friday through Sunday, is singer Cecile McLorin Salvant, chosen as the top rising star in Downbeat magazine's Critics Poll.

Salvant says she's dreamed of performing at Newport ever since she started out in jazz and saw the trailblazing documentary "Jazz on a Summer's Day" — filmed at the 1958 festival — which included memorable vocal performances by Anita O'Day, Dinah Washington and Louis Armstrong.

Wein, a jazz-pianist-turned-impresario, came up with the idea for the festival after Newport socialite Elaine Lorillard complained to him that the summer scene in

the tony resort with its Gilded Age mansions was "terribly boring" and needed some jazz to liven things up. Her tobacco-heir husband, Louis Lorillard, put up \$20,000 to hold the event despite hostility from some locals.

Wein says that first festival brought new respect for jazz as an art form, taking it out of smoke-filled clubs and into a more accessible outdoor venue. Now he hopes the festival answers questions about jazz's relevance in American culture today — a topic for a Saturday morning symposium with Harvard professor Henry Louis Gates.

At the First American Jazz Festival, held July 17-18, 1954, Wein presented a broad spectrum of "Jazz from J to Z" played by both veterans and newcomers. That's still the case, Wein says, only "the Z is extend-



In this Aug. 9, 2009 file photo, Newport Jazz Festival founder George Wein speaks during the Newport Jazz Festival in Newport, R.I.

Associated Press

ing itself" to encompass an even broader stylistic range.

Alto saxophonist Lee Konitz, the only surviving headliner from the first festival, was on the cutting edge when his quartet with pianist Lenny Tristano performed at the Newport Tennis Casino in 1954 on a program

that included such jazz giants as Dizzy Gillespie, Ella Fitzgerald, Oscar Peterson and Billie Holiday.

"It was very satisfying because we weren't playing the popular music of the day and it was like avant garde," Konitz said.

Continued on next page



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'Lucy' tops 'Hercules' with \$44M at box office

RYAN NAKASHIMA

AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Luc Besson's "Lucy" proved mind can overpower muscle, topping a remake of "Hercules" by director Brett Ratner at the box office on the weekend.

The Universal Pictures-released movie starring Scarlett Johansson as an accidental psychokinetic took in \$44 million in North American movie theaters over the weekend, according to studio estimates Sunday. "Hercules," starring Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson and produced by Paramount Pictures and Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, brought down an estimated \$29 million. Universal's president of domestic distribution, Nikki Rocco, said audiences were attracted to the original story about the main character gaining superhuman powers by using more and more of her brain. People also wanted to see Johansson in an action role, something she's done more frequently in



This image released by Universal Pictures shows Scarlett Johansson in a scene from "Lucy."

Associated Press

movies like "The Island" (2005), "Iron Man 2" (2010), "The Avengers" (2012) and "Captain America: The Winter Soldier" (2014). "The main reasons for coming to see the film were the story, and then Scarlett," Rocco said. "She's very diversified in what she does. Luc brought out the best of her in this movie." "Lucy," rated R, opens internationally next week. Meanwhile, Johnson's draw with men, women and children helped PG-

13-rated "Hercules" power into the No. 2 spot. In addition to its domestic haul, the film brought in \$28.7 million from Russia, Australia, Britain, Malaysia and other countries in Asia. Megan Colligan, Paramount's head of domestic marketing and distribution, said Johnson once again proved his appeal as a global action star who fights bad guys with a "a wink and a smile." "He can be very serious and menacing and impos-

ing, and he has this ability to melt it all away, which is why women show up for a movie like this," Colligan said. "He has a lot of appeal for kids." Johnson himself drove over half of the buzz on social media platforms like Twitter, said Benjamin Carlson, president of tracking firm Fizziology. "They weren't talking about any of the co-stars or Brett Ratner, the director," Carlson said. "It was all about 'The Rock' with this film." Despite the two films' solid performances, the summer box office is still down by around one-fifth compared to last year, according to Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst with Rentrak. That's partly because one would-be huge performer, "Fast & Furious 7" was postponed from its July 11 release due to the death of actor Paul Walker, he said. This summer also lacked some other blockbuster sequels like last year's "Despicable Me 2." That puts a lot of pressure on "Guardians of the Gal-

axy," a Marvel superhero film being released in the U.S. next week, to outperform, he said. Even though it features lesser-known characters, including Chris Pratt as Peter Quill and Zoe Saldana as Gamora, it could still break out, Dergarabedian said. "Any time you have a Marvel movie in the summer, it's still a factor," he said. Another film that opened in wide release over the weekend was the Rob Reiner-directed romantic comedy "And So It Goes," starring Michael Douglas and Diane Keaton, which collected an estimated \$4.6 million, according to distributor Clarius Entertainment. "Boyhood," a Richard Linklater film that tracks the life of a boy from age 5 to 18, gained traction in its third week of release by distributor IFC Films with \$1.7 million from just 107 locations. Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Rentrak.



Newport Jazz fest Continued from page page 29

ton's career-rejuvenating 1956 performance of "Diminuendo and Crescendo in Blue," famous for its 27-chorus solo by saxophonist Paul Gonsalves. "Newport is one of the holy places for this music," Marsalis said. "There are hundreds of festivals around the world and Newport is the granddaddy of all of them." Marsalis says his most memorable Newport experience came in 2005 when he performed for the first time with pianist Dave Brubeck, who appeared at the festival more times than any other musician. This year, Brubeck's sons, bassist-trombonist Chris Brubeck and drummer Dan Brubeck, will honor their father when the Brubeck Brothers Quartet makes its first Newport appearance since his death in December 2012. "We don't imitate Dave's

group, but I think we're true to the core of what his music was about," Chris Brubeck said. "We were given a great gift of musical legacy." The festival, which overcame racism, changing musical tastes, riots that shut it down and a decade of exile in New York, almost didn't reach its 60th anniversary. Wein sold his global festival production company in 2007, and the new management quickly went bust. Wein put up his own money and reacquired the license from Rhode Island authorities to produce the Newport jazz and folk festivals in 2009. The following year he founded the nonprofit Newport Festivals Foundation, which set up an endowment. Wein, who now works on a pro bono basis, says grants enabled him to expand the festival and offer several thousand discounted \$20 student day tickets "to destroy the myth that young people don't like jazz."

Now 86, Konitz will be returning to Newport this year and performing with his protege, the up-and-coming 22-year-old saxophonist Grace Kelly, who says she's thrilled to be sharing the stage with "one of my idols." In a nod to the past, Wein is presenting a concert Friday

night at the site of the first festival — now the Tennis Hall of Fame. Singer Dee Dee Bridgewater, who recently starred in the off-Broadway musical play "Lady Day," will be making her long-delayed Newport debut with a set she says "celebrates Billie Holiday and her music in a

joyful manner." Wein asked Wynton Marsalis' Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra to close the concert by playing "signature pieces" from Newport's storied past performed by Thelonious Monk, John Coltrane and Miles Davis, among others. Marsalis plans to honor Duke Elling-

Angell in the Outfield



MAUREEN DOWD
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NEW YORK - Roger Angell takes off his brown J. Press sports coat and blue cap, yanks out his hearing aids, stashes his cane, and sits down for a shave and haircut at Delta barbershop at 72nd and Lex., the same spot he's patronized for 40 years. "I don't see Henry Kissinger doing any interviews in a barbershop," he says dryly.

The 93-year-old New Yorker writer has come down from his house in Maine to get spruced up for the Baseball Hall of Fame ceremony. The old man who has lovingly described so many young men playing the game is getting the sport's highest writing honor, the J.G. Taylor Spink Award, unprecedented recognition for "a drop-in writer," as he calls himself, whose leisurely deadlines prevented him from becoming a member of the Baseball Writers' Association of America.

In 1962, he says, he took the advice of New Yorker editor William Shawn to try writing about something exotic, like baseball, describing Shawn's red-cheeked excitement when Angell explained to him what a double play was.

Baseball writing was a part-time gig for Angell, who served for many years as the magazine's fiction editor, following in the footsteps of his mother, Katharine Angell White, who left his father to marry her colleague E.B. White. When Angell moved into his mother's old New Yorker office, he chuckles, his shrink called it the "biggest single act of sublimation in my experience."

The lover of books and words - who else would use "venery" in a story and write the world's longest palindrome? - crisply shepherded John Updike, Donald Barthelme and William Trevor, as he himself became so luminous that Sports Illustrated compared him to Willie Mays, the player Angell calls so thrilling he "took your breath away." It's refreshing that a sport that has become tarnished by the desire to amp itself up - on steroids, merchandise and video - should honor someone so unamped.

In person, the writer is less "Angelic" - the adjective coined to describe his beguiling writing - than astringent. He has spent most of a century, from Ruth to Jeter, passionately tracking the sport as a fan, but he also proclaims himself a "foe of goo." He much prefers the sexy "Bull Durham" to the sentimental "Field of Dreams."

He sniffs at being called "the poet laureate of baseball" and winces at a recent reverential Sports Illustrated profile. "It made me sound like the Dalai Lama," he says. "My God, I'm just a guy who happened to live on for a long time. I'd rather be younger and writing than all this stuff."

When I ask him if the Jacques Barzun quote "Whoever wants to know the heart and mind of America had better learn baseball" was outmoded, he scoffs: "I didn't write about baseball because I was looking for the heart and soul of America. I don't care if baseball is the national pastime or not. The thing about baseball is, it's probably the hardest game to play. The greatest hitters are only succeeding a third of the time. If you take a great athlete who's never played baseball and put him in the infield, he's lost."

Many in our ADD nation may find baseball soporific now, but not Angell.

"Baseball is linear - it's like writing," he says. "In other sports, there's a lot going on at the same time. You can't quite take it all in."

Could soccer ever take over as the national pastime? "I don't know," he replied. "I felt I was being waterboarded by The New York Times with the World Cup."

Do American men focus as much on baseball? "Baseball used to be really attractive for men because the guys that played it were normal size, they had winter jobs as truck drivers or beer salesmen," he said. "So it was easy to think with a little bit of luck that could have been me. Now the athletes are clearly so much bigger and stronger and vastly more talented."

Should steroid-tainted players be in the Hall of Fame?

"Barry Bonds belongs in the Hall of Fame," he said, expressing sympathy for players who get worn down playing every day. "There's been a lot of cheating, if you want to call it that, particularly about home runs," he said. "If Ted Williams had had a short right field in Fenway Park, he would have been much better than Babe Ruth, probably."

We drop by a Ralph Lauren store. He wants to buy a cotton sweater for Cooperstown but doesn't see anything he likes. "It's hard to be old and shop," he says. "The sales staff is probably terrified that I'm changing the age demographic. And I'm no longer sure what I want."

He said the instructions for Cooperstown were "like D-Day," but noted mordantly, "Anything I do is OK because they'll say, 'He's old. What do you expect? He's 93. He's hopeless.'"

He wrote a swell New Yorker story about the vicissitudes of old age, talking about how he memorizes poems and writes blogs to stay sharp.

Most surprising, the widower - his beloved wife, Carol, died two years ago - extolled the virtues of sunset sexuality, ratifying Laurence Olivier's line "Inside, we're all 17, with red lips." □



Chamber Lost Its Way in Right Turn



JOE NOCERA
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Twice a year, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce convenes what it calls its Committee of 100 - which is composed of heads of regional chambers and Washington trade associations. They hear about the business climate from the chamber's longtime president, Thomas J. Donohue, and about the political landscape from Bruce Josten, its chief lobbyist.

In the summer of 2012, a few months before the elections, the bulk of the meeting, according to people who were there, was devoted to one subject: the importance of electing Republicans. The Chamber of Commerce - which once supported its share of pro-business Democrats - went almost completely to the Republican side, spending millions to oppose such Democratic senatorial candidates as Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts; Sen. Sherrod Brown of Ohio, who was up for re-election; and former Gov. Tim Kaine of Virginia. It ran ads against Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., who often took pro-business positions, accusing her of being anti-jobs because she supported the Affordable Care Act. The chamber had done much the same thing during the 2010 midterms, with great success, helping to hand the House of Representatives to the Republicans, thanks largely to the influx of Tea Party freshmen. Now, said

the chamber brass, it was time to finish the job and give the country a Republican Senate as well. As it turns out, the 2012 strategy was a flop. According to The Washington Post, the chamber's candidates lost in 13 of the 15 Senate races it poured money into. On the House side, the chamber went 4 for 22. Thus did the chamber find itself in the worst of all worlds. It had alienated Democrats, including the kind of pro-business Democrats who believe in the sort of practical politics that business prefers. Yet it had also helped usher in the Tea Party, only to discover that its strain of right-wing populism was as disdainful of business as it was of government.

What brings this to mind is the continuing fight over the Export-Import Bank. It is the classic kind of issue that used to unite the Republican Party and the Chamber of Commerce, pre-Tea Party: backing a government agency that supports trade by helping to finance deals that involve U.S. exports.

That is also the kind of issue that is anathema to Tea Party ideologues, who view it as corporate welfare. The chamber has vowed a "full-court press" to save the Ex-Im Bank, but so far at least, the House is indifferent to its entreaties.

And it's not just the Ex-Im Bank. As Edward Luce noted this week in The Financial Times, this Congress won't countenance any of the things that business - and the chamber - care about. Immigration reform is dead. Congress won't raise the gas tax to fund the Highway Trust Fund. Revamping the corporate tax rate can't even get a hearing. And on, and on.

It is possible that the chamber didn't quite realize what it was getting when it helped elect those Tea Party freshmen in 2010 - few people did until they began to flex their muscles. But it is equally possible that it didn't care.

("The chamber is not an arm of either party and is not 'aligned' with either party," a spokesman told me in an email.)

In the 16 years he has run the Chamber of Commerce, Donohue has turned it into a potent force, in no small part by making it more partisan. But by being so blindly pro-Republican, the chamber "unleashed a Frankenstein that has spun out of control," said Robert Weissman, president of Public Citizen, which monitors the Chamber of Commerce. That became most clear during the debt ceiling and deficit fights of the last few years - when the Tea Party Republicans seemed so determined to shrink government that they were even willing to default on the government's debt. The chamber reacted in horror.

I'm told that after the 2012 election, at yet another Committee of 100 gathering, a former Democratic congressman, Dave McCurdy, who now runs the American Gas Association, stood up and criticized Donohue for his "all-in" Republican strategy. He told Donohue that everybody in the room was pro-business, but they weren't all Republicans, and that if the chamber really wanted to be effective again, it needed to take on the Tea Party and the right wing of the Republican Party in favor of more moderate candidates of both parties.

As the 2014 midterms near, that seems to be the approach the Chamber of Commerce is taking. It has gotten involved in Republican primaries, siding with the more moderate Republican in a race - though perhaps it is more accurate to say the less radical Republican.

At the most recent Committee of 100 meeting, Rob Engstrom, the chamber's national political director, told the group that the chamber planned to support Mary Landrieu, the Louisiana Democrat who is running for re-election to the Senate.

Better late than never. □

Dressed to Kill Where Fake Violence Reigns

**MICHAEL CIEPLY
BROOKS BARNES**
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SAN DIEGO - Bursts of machine-gun noise sputtered in a hall where prop assault weapons, slightly used by professional killers in "The Expendables 3," are for sale. The Suicide Girls, a tribe of tattooed models, were promoting the film "Sin City: A Dame to Kill For." Among the panel discussions: "101 Ways to Kill a Man." Welcome to Comic-Con International, the annual pop entertainment convention here where film, television, comic book and video game producers exhibit their offerings to passionate fans in outrageous costumes.

Many of the 130,000 attendees are dressed to kill, with fake axes, machetes, grenade launchers, hunting bows and real-looking guns. Organizers run a "weapons check" to make sure the arms are not deadly.

"I built these out of wood, aluminum, a couple of screws, some Super Glue," said Eric Garibay of Modesto, California, referring to a pair of swords and some metallic tubes and boxes that looked as if they might detonate.

Nowhere is violence in entertainment more prominently on display as at Comic-Con. And yet, historically, all of the attendees are strikingly well-behaved.

"They are rule followers," Lt. Marshall White, a San Diego police officer, said of the Comic-Con masses. White, who oversees patrols at the convention, added, "To them, the police are super-heroes."

This is the Comic-Con mystery - and it highlights the question at the heart of a prickly debate over violence in entertainment: Is violent behavior in real life influenced by the mayhem that viewers consume on screens big and small? Questions about violent entertainment gained new urgency in May, when Elliot O. Rodger, 22, killed himself and six others in Isla Vista, California, after writing a

manifesto, "My Twisted World," in which, among other things, he portrayed himself as having been immersed in "Halo," the shooter game. (Helmeted troopers waved rifles at the crowd before a presentation of that video game Friday.)

Another avid gamer, Adam Lanza, who was 20 years old, killed 26 people at the Sandy Hook Elementary

no clear causal connection between violent programming and violent behavior. But last year, he noted, reports by his organization and federal researchers responding to a request by President Barack Obama after the Newtown massacre, found evidence of a correlation that is still not entirely delineated.

"Significant relationships exist between violent me-

Studies on the matter do tend to move with a glacial speed. As part of a series of executive orders about 18 months ago, Obama asked Congress to give the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \$10 million annually to research the root causes of gun violence in America. A bill was finally introduced last month, but it faces Republican opposition.

children to see. "The vast majority of academic studies do not provide direct ties to violence in entertainment leading to violence in real life," said Howard Gantman, an association spokesman.

Still, Hollywood sends mixed messages on the matter. Studios point to their ratings system, but the Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania



A costumed attendee carries a fake saw at Comic-Con International at the San Diego Convention Center in San Diego, July 24, 2014. At Comic-Con, which puts violence in entertainment on display, attendees tend to behave well, highlighting the mystery in the debate about whether such mayhem influences behavior.

(Sandy Huffaker/The New York Times)

School in Newtown, Connecticut, in a mass shooting in 2012. Five months earlier, James E. Holmes, then 24, killed 12 people in an Aurora, Colorado, movie theater that was screening "The Dark Knight Rises." "I think it's a no-brainer and crystal-clear," said James Steyer, the chief executive of Common Sense Media, a watchdog group, saying that he believed there was a demonstrated link between violent entertainment and behavior.

Steyer acknowledged that several studies highlighted by the Entertainment Software Association, a game industry group, have found

dia experience and some measure of aggression and violent behavior," said the federal report, which was prepared by the Institute of Medicine and the National Research Council.

More pointedly, both reports said that contemporary entertainment media - including social media, intense interactive online experiences and role playing that can spill from screens into life, as with the costumed fans at Comic-Con - have far outstripped the research into their possible impact. In other words, the entertainment industry is moving too fast for the researchers to keep up.

In the interim, movie studios have continued to rely on violence for hits. It worked last weekend for Universal Pictures, which released "The Purge: Anarchy" to a hefty \$29.8 million in ticket sales. This summer, Sony successfully sold "22 Jump Street" with ads featuring goofball cops holding gold guns. Next up: Marvel's "Guardians of the Galaxy," which arrives on Aug. 1 and features a machine-gun-toting raccoon.

The Motion Picture Association of America cites its long-held position that parents, not studios, must decide what level of violence is appropriate for

nia, which tracks gun use in popular films, last year found that gun violence in top-selling PG-13 rated movies exceeded that in the best-selling R-rated movies.

"What we don't know is the kind of person who is susceptible to this influence," said Daniel Romer, who oversees the Annenberg research.

As recently as January, Harvey Weinstein, who with his brother, Bob, leads The Weinstein Co., publicly promised to curtail gun violence in his films, and he even spoke of financing an anti-gun drama with Meryl Streep in a leading role. □